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Volume referred

VIRGINIA

BUNDLE Q

1101 - 1194

pp. 1-460

Contains original papers dated 1720 to 1726.



Virginia January the 16<sup>th</sup> 1720<sup>(P. 9)</sup>

My Lords

Having lately held a Generall Assembly here, where  
in more business has been done than in all the ses-  
sions since the year 1714. I would not let this oppor-  
tunity pass without communicating to Yo<sup>r</sup> Lordships the  
most material Transactions, tho' the shortness of the time  
since the prorogation (which was on the 23<sup>d</sup> of last month)  
doth not permitt my sending the Journals and a com-  
plete Transcript of the Laws, nor to make the necessary  
Observations thereon. I shall therefore confine this Letter to  
such matters as more immediately concern his Majesties  
Service, and which are containd in the Address & three  
Acts w<sup>ch</sup> go inclosed

As I have on former occasions represented to Your  
Lordships the Importance of gaining possession of the Passes  
of the Great Mountains which lye to the Westward of  
the inhabited part of this Colony. So your Lordships have  
now the Sentiments of the Council and Burgesses of  
the great consequence it is to these Plantations that  
those Passes be speedily secured; the growing Power of  
the French on the Mississippi, and the dangers to  
which this and the Neighbouring Plantations would  
be exposd, should that Nation possess themselves of  
these Mountains, have justly alarmd the Assembly, and  
stirrd in them an uncommon concern to be beforehand

\* This is not printed in Gotswood's Correspondence, edited by Brock.



in securing that Barrier. To this purpose they have taken measures by the Act w<sup>h</sup> I shall have occasion by & by to mention, for encouraging people to extend their Settlements up to those Passes, and by an humble Address (of which I send inclosed a Copy) have supplicated his Majesty to assist with his Royal Bounty a design wherein the Safety of so many of his Subjects is concerned. Their first petition is, for remitting for ten years the Rent of all the Lands within the two Countys which they have now erected leading to those Passes, together with the five shillings due to his Majesty for the Right to take up every 50 acres of Land therein: Upon which head I beg leave to inform Your Lordships that [there are] there be within the bounds of those Countys many Tracts of very good Land, yet there are much more which are barren & Mountainous, and which <sup>[p. 10]</sup> in all probability will by many years both unprofitable to his Majesty, and useless to the Subject without such an Encouragement as is now proposed; and besides, the Northern Indians continually traversing the Great Mountains through those Passes, unless these be secured, few people will be tempted by any prospect of Advantage to seat upon Lands where they must be exposed to their Insults, whereas on the other hand, the allowing people to take up those Lands on the easy Terms proposed, and the remitting their



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Quit Rents, together with the Exemptions and privileges granted them by the Generall Assembly will so far encourage people to settle in those parts, that I have not the least Doubt but that all the Lands in those precincts will be seated in ten years time And His Majesty will then find so considerable an Increase of his Quit Rents as will abundantly compensate what he has parted with for the preceding years. But what is still more to be regarded is the Increase of the Trade of Great Britain which will accrue from the Cultivation of this new Territory inas- much as new ground yields a much greater produce than that which hath been long used & worn out. And therefore I hope Your Lordships will be pleased to assist with a favourable Representation of the Applications of the Generall Assembly in this particular.

The other petitions in this Address are, That His Majesty will be pleased to order Forts to be erected at those two Passes, out of his Quit Rents here and that two Companies of Soldiers be sent on His Majesty's pay for Garrisoning the same. The expence of building these Forts for the present need not be very great, there being plenty of Stone upon the Spot for that purpose, And it being impracticable for any Enemy from the other side of the Mountains to bring Canon against them: if twenty years service in



the Wars, and the part I had in the most  
considerable projects of the last War in Flanders  
as Lieut 2<sup>d</sup> Master Gen<sup>l</sup> under the Duke of Marl-  
borough can gain Credit with Your Lordships to  
what I say of the importance of these Forts to  
the security of this Dominion I can with truth as-  
sure Your Lordships that were I of the French side,  
I could with one Company of Soldiers in a month's  
time cast up such a Work on that Pass which I  
have viewed, that all the Power of Virginia could  
not be able to dislodge me; and how much more  
[p. 11] / difficult it will be for the French who are much  
more remote to attempt such a Fort as may with  
no great Charge be built there, and where our Mi-  
litia [are] <sup>(then army)</sup> near at hand to succour it Your Lordships will  
easily judge. And as to the Soldiers desired for the  
Harrisons, if it be considered of what consequence it is  
to prevent <sup>(the army)</sup> the French Nation from getting possession of a  
Barrier w<sup>ch</sup> would afford them <sup>(the army)</sup> [?] into the heart  
of his Majesty's Dominions here, whenever they think  
fitt, and which on the other hand will secure this  
and the Neighbouring Provinces as <sup>(the army)</sup> [well] against the  
French Power as from the Incursions both of the Northern  
and Southern Indians, restrain their Intercourse & Com-  
binations, and confine them in their Marches to the other  
side of the Mountains and may in time open a way

[edge of paper  
mutilated]



to our possessing ourselves of the Lakes which are not  
very <sup>(born among)</sup> remote] from thence, and by that means gaining  
a fine Country between the Mountains & these Lakes, I  
hope the Request will not be thought unreasonable,  
nor w[ill] the Parliament of Great Britain grudge to  
defray the charge of so small [an] Establishment of  
Forces to the Kings first Colony when other Plantations  
of much less value to the Crown have a greater Number  
allow'd them.

I shall now proceed to my Observations on the  
three Acts herewith sent The first is that for erect-  
ing the County of Spotsylvania and Brunswick, and  
granting certain Exemptions and benefits to the Inha-  
bitants thereof This Act is framed upon the Plan of  
securing the Passes of the Mountains, and contains those  
Encouragements given by the Generall Assembly which are  
mentioned in the Address to His Majesty Sixt Ten years  
Exemption to the Inhabitants from Publick Taxes, Supply-  
ing them with Arms and Ammunition, building them  
Churches and Court houses at the Publick Charge for  
which Service the Sum of Two thousand pounds is  
appropriated by the Assembly out of their Publick fund.  
That County which is called Spotsylvania is bounded accord-  
ing to my Observations when I view'd the Northern Pass  
over the Great Mountains at the head of Rappahannock  
River, there being very little more of it known than



what I discovered in that March; But the bounds  
of that County call'd Brunswick which includes the  
Southern Pass at the head of Roanoke River, are so  
[p. 107] little known, that the Assembly was / obliged to leave  
the same to be ascertained afterwards when a further  
discovery shall be made; for tho' we are assured by  
the Indians and some Traders, that there is a pass  
through the Mountains at the head of that River,  
and no other from thence to that at the head of  
Rappahannock, yet we are still in the dark as to  
the distance it is from our Inhabitants, or how near  
these two Passes are to one another: and I believe I  
shall be obliged to make another journey thither  
before the bounds of that County can be fixed or the  
Intended Fort erected. There is one Clause in this  
Act, exempting foreign Protestants coming to inhabit  
those Countys from contributing to the Support of the  
Established Ministers, so long only as they keep a Min-  
ister of their own. This was put in upon the Obser-  
vation of the inconveniency of erecting distinct parishes  
for Foreigners: The french Refugees sent in here by  
King William, bringing a Minister with them had their  
Settlement erected into a distinct Parish, but being unable  
to afford a comfortable Subsistence to a Minister, they have  
continued a great many years without one, and trust-  
ing to contributions from their Country men in England



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to supply that want, have to this day never applied, themselves to learn the English Language, by which they might have been enabled to join in the Publick Worship with their Neighbouring Inhabitants, tho' they make no scruple to conform to the Ceremonys of our Church, the Ministers they have had being of that Communion. The other parts of this Act are only for the better Administration of Justice among the Inhabitants of those new Countys untill they are sufficiently peopled to have Courts of their own, and some necessary provisions for preserving the Rents which are to be furnished to the Inhabitants, upon w<sup>ch</sup> I need not trouble Y<sup>r</sup> Lord<sup>ss</sup> with any Remarks.

The next is An Act for the better discovery and securing of His Majesty's Quit Rents. The chief occasion of making this Law, was to free the people from the penalty of forfeiting their Lands for three years Non-payment of Quit Rents, as had been enacted by two former Laws, the one pass'd in the year 1710 and the other in the year 1713; but as those two Laws had been under / your Lord<sup>ss</sup> Consideration and approved of, I did not think fitt to consent<sup>(to any)</sup> to any Alteration therein by this Act, without a Clause suspending the force thereof till his Majesty's pleasure be known, as Y<sup>r</sup> Lord<sup>ss</sup> will observe at the close of this Act. There is another part of this Act on which I likewise thought



fit to wait his Majesty's pleasure which is that of changing the payment of the Quit Rents into Current money. This at first sight may seem to be disadvantageous to his Majesty, because of the difference between the Currency of this Country and the value of Sterling money. But as I have taken notice that the principal reason why the greatest part of the Kings Quit Rents has been paid in tobacco, was the difficulty of the people's procuring English money, and the almost impossibility of obtaining Bills of Exchange. I have long been of opinion that his Majesty's allowing the Quit Rents to be received in the common Currency of the Country would be the only way of lessening the Tobacco payments and consequently of increasing the value of the 2<sup>d</sup> Rents: for as the 2<sup>d</sup> Rent Tobacco in divers Counties have been sold heretofore for three shillings a hundred & sometimes for half a crown, and that many of those who paid that Tobacco, would have been contented to discharge their Quit Rents in money, if it had been allowed them to pay it in the common Currency; I think it is thence demonstrable that the Crown has lost considerably by insisting too strictly on Sterling money, and accepting in lieu thereof a commodity of far less value. Besides Your Lordships will observe by the Letter of King Charles the second mentioned in the Preamble to this Act, that this Alteration in the payment is no more than what



the Crown then consented to, and it was by that  
Letter directed that a Proclamation should be published,  
notifying the Allowance of that manner of payment,  
now that Proclamation came to be neglected I have  
not been able to learn: but this I am certain, that the  
Revenue has suffered considerably since by not introduc-  
ing that manner of payment. Abundance of the prin-  
cipal Inhabitants of the Country having declared to me  
that they would never have paid Tobacco, <sup>[p. 12]</sup> even in  
those years when it was least valuable, if they could  
have discharged their Quit Rents in current money.  
But your Lordships will observe in the 2<sup>d</sup> paragraph of  
this Act, that in order to the encouraging the pay-  
ment of the Quit Rents in money, the people are now  
obliged, if they will pay Tobacco to deliver it at certain  
places in their severall Countys, instead of the Sheriff  
receiving it at every particular plantation as the man-  
ner of Collection now is, By this means the Planters  
will be engaged rather to procure money, than to  
put themselves to the trouble of carrying their Tobacco  
such a distance as this Act enjoins them, whereby it will  
come to pass that the greatest part of the Quit Rents will  
be paid in money, and that which is paid in tobacco  
will be much more valuable by its being paid more  
conveniently than it used to be formerly, when the  
purchaser had it to receive at twenty different places



in a County, whereas it will now be at three or four at most.

There are divers other beneficial clauses in this Bill, which may be reckoned an Equivalent for the forfeiture imposed by the former Laws; such as the method of selling the goods distrained for the Quit Rents, which is different from the common practice established by Law in the case of private debts; for by the Laws now in force, such goods are to be valued by Appraisers chosen by the party and the Sheriff, and at whatever value these put on the goods, the Receiver General is obliged to take them, and to return the Overplus in money to the Debtor: So that where the valuation is made by corrupt Appraisers, as is too often the case, the Debtor is favoured beyond reason. And it has been known that the Receiver General for a debt of the Kings has had an old Saddle not worth 40s valued to him at £25. Still But by this Act the person who makes distress for the Kings debt is answerable for no more than what it will sell for by publick Auction. The penalty of paying double Quit Rents for all Lands wilfully concealed, and making the Lands of persons living out of the Country liable to all arrears of Quit Rents whenever they come to be afterwards possessed, will also prove of great benefit to the Crown, by obliging the people to discover the true quantity they hold, and those who live out of the Colony to



be more exact in the payment of their Quit Rents, it being well known that a great deal of land is held by persons out of the Country which have nothing on them to detain. Neither could these Lands by the former Laws become forfeited for Nonpayment of Quit Rents, because process could not be served on the Owners to compell their Appearance to defend their Titles. These are the remarkable parts of this Act, and I hope will be reckoned a Compensation for the latter Clause which Enacts That no Lands shall hereafter become forfeited for Nonpayment of Quit Rents, the preamble of which Clause doth truly set forth divers practices very inconvenient to the Subject which have been set on foot under pretence of that forfeiture, which never were designed by the Laws wherein the said forfeiture is given, and I must acknowledge that such a penalty was severe enough of it self, without making it a handle for cutting off Entails, or giving occasion to ill disposed persons to acquire unjust Titles to other mens Estates; but in excuse for making that forfeiture it may be truly said that if such a penalty had not been imposed, nor the other inconveniencies discovered this Law now before you Lordes had never had its birth And since the Laws which create the forfeiture for Nonpayment of Quit Rents have now had their Effect by obtaining a juster method of payment of the Quit Rents I hope his Majesty will be pleased to accept of this Act as an Equivalent for that



forfeiture; and that if Your Lordships shall find nothing therein prejudicial to His Majesty's Service (for I sincerely declare I can discover none) You will be pleased to Expedite His Majesty's Approval thereof that it may be put in execution if possible against the time of the next years payment of the Quit Rents.

The last Act I shall now trouble Your Lordships with, is that for explaining and further declaring what shall be a sufficient Reating and Improvement to save Lands from lapsing and for the better recovery of Lands lapsed from persons living out of the Country. This Act is intended to supply some Omissions in the former Act passed in 1713 which directed the Improvement & Cultivation which were to be made / on  
<sup>(p. 16.)</sup> Lands thereafter to be taken up: for as to the first Clause which allows the clearing & fencing of pasture grounds to be a sufficient Cultivation, it must be granted that clearing and fencing of such grounds is as much Labour and Cost, as if the same were actually planted with grain, and no man will be at the pains to make such a pasture unless he has likewise a plantation at the same place. The 2<sup>d</sup> Clause is That where people lay out their money in buildings, or other valuable Improvements, every ten pounds so expended shall save 30 acres of the Tract on which these buildings & improvements are made. This will seem the more reasonable, if it



be compared with the other methods of Cultivation

2. <sup>has and the  
advancing  
in a  
ground etc]</sup> prescribed in the former Law: for if the tending three  
acres of Corn ground which doth not cost 40s expence  
shall according to the first Law save 50 acres, the  
laying out ten pounds in building houses which are  
absolutely necessary for a man's habitation or in plant-  
ing fruit trees which are of a more valuable pro-  
duce, and the other improvements therein mentioned  
which are of greater expence ought to give him at  
least as great a benefite in saving his Tract; and  
as ten pounds for a hundred acres of the Outlands is  
now the common price where there are no houses or  
Improvements Your Lordships will not think it an un-  
reasonable concession that the people are by this Law  
allowed to save a hundred acres at the Expence of  
Double the value of it. I pass over the subsequent clauses  
about proving the value of the improvements, as unneces-  
sary to trouble Your Lordships with, and only take  
notice of that part which allows the surplus improve-  
ments on Lands already patented, to save proportion-  
ally any contiguous Tract hereafter taken up and  
joined together in one Patent; this I am well assured  
will prove an Advantage to the Crown because in the  
taking up of lands since the late Law directing the  
manner of Cultivation, people have confined themselves  
to such small Tracts as they found themselves of



[17] Liberty to improve, and have carefully / avoided take-  
ing up much of what is accounted barren. So that  
abundance of such lands by wast between the Tracts  
of different Patentees, which neither have cared to  
meddle with. Now by this Act Liberty being given  
to join those contiguous barren grounds to the other  
more profitable Tracts and that the Improvements  
made hereafter on the good land shall save that  
which is bad, those who have the contiguous Lands  
will now gladly take in these barrens, seeing tho'  
they are unfitt for cultivation they may neverthe-  
less be very usefull for furnishing their plantations  
with wood and other necessaries, and thereby those  
Lands which otherwise must have layn many years  
useless to the Subject & unprofitable to his Majesty.  
will by this encouragement yield a considerable In-  
crease of His Majestys Ritt Rents. Here is likewise  
provision made for recovering Lands lapsed from  
persons living out of the Country who by the former  
Laws could not become at unless the process of the  
General Court was actually served on them, but now  
the lands of such persons, (if they do not appear  
and prove a Seating after the severall publications di-  
rected by this Act) may be declared Lapsed, and re-  
-granted to any that petition for it. This Act alter-  
ing nothing material in the former Laws for seating



and cultivating, but only serving as an explanation thereof, I did not take it to come under the distinction of Laws of an extraordinary Nature, and therefore gave my Assent to it, and hope it will also deserve Your Lordships' Approbation.

That Your Lordships may the better judge of the disposition of the Country, I send inclosed a copy of my Speech at the opening of the Session, the Addresses of the Council, & of the Burgesses; and my Speech at the prorogation; and shall only observe that notwithstanding this House of Burgesses had in it a great many of the same Members who composed the last, Their present Address to me was unanimous; and I hope Your Lordships will believe that a Governor who is now treated with the appellations of good & just, could scarce deserve the Character given him two years ago, of an Oppressor of <sup>[his]</sup> His Majesty's Subjects, and a subverter of the Constitution, and that it was more humour than Reason that prevailed on the then House of Burgesses to frame such a Complaint against me.

I shall conclude with repeating my Request, that Your Lordships will be pleased to forward as much as possible His Majesty's Resolutions upon what is contained in the Assembly's Address. I have sent the Original to my Lord Orkney, who I question not



will take the first opportunity to present it: and as I know it will be referred for Your Lordship's Report thereon I am the more earnest in bespeaking Your Lordship's dispatch thereof, because it has been represented here, as if nothing would ever be obtained at Court without an Agent from hence to solicit in behalf of the Country. and the truth is, the Burgesses nominating Mr Byrd to be their Agent on this occasion, is the only matter in which we have differed this Session, tho' it will not appear to be much the inclination of the people, when it is considered that this Resolution was barely carried by the Speaker's casting Vote: and if his Majesty shall grant the Assembly's Request before Mr Byrd gets home, it will be a means to convince the Country that his Majesty's Ministers are not (as has been represented) so regardless of the Plantations as to need the solicitations of particular Agents to prompt them to the doing what the Interest and Safety of his Majesty's American Subjects require. And hereupon I cannot forbear adding this one Observation, that the Application for Soldiers to Garrison the Passes of the Mountains can proceed from nothing less than a thorough Conviction of the necessity thereof, when a people who have the greatest jealousy of and Aversion to a Military Power, so earnestly press for such a Guard to their Frontiers.



I received Mr Lordps letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> of July,  
just before the meeting of the Assembly, and having  
laid before them some paragraphs of that letter,  
it will be most properly answered when I come to  
transmitt the journals: so that at present I have  
nothing to add but that I am with all respect  
and duty

My Lords

Your Lordships

Most Obedient &

Most Humble Servant

R Spotswood

Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Col. Spotswood, <sup>[p. 10]</sup>  
Lieut. Gov<sup>t</sup> of Virginia, to the / Board, dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of  
January / 1720/21. / Rec<sup>d</sup>. March 20<sup>th</sup> } 1720/21. / 2. 3.  
Read 19<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>th</sup>



[a. 107]

To the Right Honourable the Lords  
Commissioners of Trade and Plantations.

My Lords

In Obedience to Your Lordships Com:  
mands I have perused and consider'd An Act  
made and pass'd in Virginia Intituled.

1720. An Act for the better discovery and secur:  
tying of his Majesty's Quit Rents. And as to such  
part of it as relates to the Appointing proper Re-  
ceivers in each County of his Majesty's Quit Rents  
I am of Opinion that it may be very properly  
pass'd into Law but upon the Account of some  
other clauses in the Act I humbly conceive that  
this Act is no ways proper to be Confirm'd

By the Law of Virginia as it stood before the  
Enacting of this Law All Lands were forfeited for  
three Years Non-payment of Quit Rents but by this  
Act it is Enacted that no Lands shall in any such  
Case be forfeited and therefore the Crown has no  
other Remedy left for the Recovery of its Quit  
Rents or at least no other Penalty hangs over  
the heads of Defaulters/ but what is especially <sup>[a. 108]</sup>  
provided by this Act which provisor is that every  
person who shall conceal the true Quantity of  
his Patent Lands shall pay double Quit Rents for  
such Concealed Lands And it is also provided



that one Moiety of the said double Quit Rents shall go to the discoverer of any concealed or Patent Lands

Now for the forfeiture of Lands for Non-payment of Quit Rents for three Years may be thought too severe a penalty I submit to Your Lordships But then I am of Opinion that what is provided by this Act is as much too little as the other can be supposed to be too much for as One Moiety of the double Quit Rents payable for Lands concealed is to go to the Informer the Crown in all events is entitled only to the single Quit Rents due by Law for the Lands, when as the forfeiture was for Non-payment generally, And therefore as this Act tends to the manifest diminution of the Kings right as to forfeitures and to weaken the process for the Crown in the recovery of its Quit Rents I am of Opinion It is not proper to be Confirmed.

[1671.]

I have also Considered the two following Acts Vint. The first is Intituled. "An Act for Erecting the Countys of Spotsylvania and Brunswick and granting certain Exemptions and Benefits to the Inhabitants thereof."

The Second is Intituled. "An Act Explaining and further declaring what shall be accounted a sufficient Seating and Improvement to save lands from"



"Leaving and for the better recovery of lands leased  
from persons living out of the Country. I have no  
Objection to their being passed into Law. All which  
I humbly submit to Your Lordships and am.

My Lords

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

and

Most humble Servant

Richd West.

May 4<sup>th</sup>. 1721.

Endorsed Virginia / Mr West's Report / upon <sup>[p. 15.]</sup>  
three Acts passed at / Virginia, in Novemb: 1720. / dated  
the 3<sup>d</sup>. Instant. / Read May 4<sup>th</sup> } 1721. / 2: 13. / 1 & 2  
Read W.

Also Endorsed Report / Upon three Acts / passed  
at Virginia.



To the Kings most Excellent Majesty

[p. 73046]  
(large sheet  
folded.)

The Humble Address of the Council and  
Burgesses of Virginia

May it Please Your Majesty

We your Majesties most dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Council and Burgesses of this your most ancient Colony being now met in Assembly and having with great Attention deliberated on the Circumstances of our Country and considered as well how to Extend your Empire in these parts as to Secure our present Settlements from the Incursions of the Savage Indians and from the more dangerous Inroachments of the Neighbouring French Do with all Submission to your Royal Wisdom beg leave to lay before your Majesty the present Situation of this Colony and the means whereby we humbly conceive it may at this time be better secured and Improved

To the Westward of Virginia about forty miles distant from some of our remotest Settlements there runs a Ridge or continued Chain of Exceeding high Mountains which Extend all along on the back of this and the next province of Carolina and must certainly prove an extraordinary Safe guard to these Colonys, whenever our plantations shall reach so far as to get possession of the few difficult passes which, according to the best discoveries we have hitherto been able to make, appear



to be no more than two thro' that Ridge: On the other hand in case the French who are carrying on dangerous projects not very far beyond these Mountains, should be beforehand with your Majesties Subjects and possess these passes, that Nation would then not only secure their Communication betwixt the Rivers St Lawrence and Mississippi but would be in condition by keeping the key of this Barrier to annoy your Majesties Subjects on this side whenever they think fit.

This apprehension awakens us to give all Encouragement suitable to our poor Abilities, for the speedy seating that Tract of Land which lies untaken up between our present Settlements and those Two passes in the high Mountains, for that end we have now Erected Two new Countys, the One on Rappahannock River leading up to the Northern pass, and the other on Roanoke leading to that on the South, To Encourage People to go up and Seat these Two Counties We have Exempted the Inhabitants thereof from publick Taxes for the Space of Ten yeares We have agreed to build them Churches and Court houses and to furnish them with Ammunition at the publick Charge, But what We humbly presume would stil be a greater Inducement to many of your Majesties Subjects to go up and settle this new Frontier would be Your Royal favour of remitting all



the Quit Rents of these Two Counties for Ten yeares and  
Exempting the takers up of Land from the five shillings  
which they are by the Order of this Government obliged  
to pay for every fifty Acres of Land that they enter  
for; And this Bounty we are the more encouraged  
to beg because We are fully perswaded That in a  
few yeares it will prove a considerable Augmenta-  
tion of your Majesties Revenue here.

And for the more effectual Security of this  
Your Majesties Dominion and to render the proposed  
Barrier more defensible We humbly Beg Your Majesty  
will be graciously pleased to give directions for building  
a fort at each of the passes in the Great Mountains,  
Out of your Revenue of Quit Rents in this Colony And  
likewise for sending over Two Companies of men in Your  
Majesties pay, consisting of fifty men each besides Of-  
ficers to serve as a Garrison for these Forts, and a con-  
stant Guard of our Mountains under the Orders of  
Your Majesties Governour and Council here.

And That Your Majesty may be more readi-  
ly induced to Extend Your Royall Bounty in the  
particulars above mentioned Our Lieutenant Governour  
Colonel Spotswood will be pleased to interceed with  
your Majesty in our favour, who has spared no fatigue  
or Expence to Visit our Mountains in person, and  
to inform himself of the Exceeding Importance of



them, both for your Majesties Service and for the  
defence and Security of this Dominion

[original signatures]

J <sup>no</sup> Holloway Speaker	W <sup>th</sup> Cole	James Ball	W Jemings
William Randolph	J <sup>a</sup> Ricketts	G Osteridge	Robert Carter
Th <sup>no</sup> Randolph	Anth <sup>o</sup> Hamstead	Willis Wilson	James Blair
J <sup>no</sup> Hamlin	John Waller	William Crawford	Phil <sup>p</sup> Ludwell
John Simmons	Th <sup>o</sup> : Johnson	Geo: Mason	W Byrd.
Rev: Smith	John Hawkins	Peter Presly	W <sup>m</sup> Dasset
John Lear	Richd Covington	Peter Hack	Nath <sup>l</sup> : Harrison
James Kiddick	He Draxton	W <sup>m</sup> Waters	Mann Page
M Bouch (see margin)	Henry Willis	Geo Harmanson	Cole Digges
Anthony Walke	G Corbin	John Leackle	Peter Beverley
Nicholas Meriwether	N Burwell	Soloman Orrell	1720
John Stith	Will: Woodbridge		
Archibald Blair	Chas Barber		
William Brodnax	William Ball		
	1720:		
Th <sup>o</sup> : Jones			
Law <sup>r</sup> : Smith			
John Clayton			

25



At the Court at St James's -

[477]

the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1721.

Present

The Kings most Excell<sup>t</sup> Majesty

in Council -

Upon reading this day at the Board a Report from the Lords Commiss<sup>rs</sup> of Trade and Plantations dated the 17<sup>th</sup> of this Instant on the Address of the Council and Burgesses of Virginia, relating to the securing the Passes, on the great Ridge of Mountains which extend along the back of Virginia and Carolina, and to the speedy Settlement thereof: It is Ordered by His Majesty in Council, that the said Report be, & it is hereby Referred to the Lords of the Committee of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council to consider the same, and Report to His Majesty at this Board what they conceive fitt to be done therein.

a true Copy.

Edward Southwell

Endorsed. Virginia / Copy of an Order in / Coun<sup>[478]</sup>  
cil, dated y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> of July / last, referring a Rep<sup>t</sup> from /  
this Board of the 17<sup>th</sup> Ditto, upon / an Address of the  
Council & / Burgesses of Virginia, to a / Committee of  
Council. / Recd August 8<sup>th</sup> } 1721 / 2: 15.  
Read Ditto



Virginia October the 5<sup>th</sup> 1721. <sup>[pp.1]</sup>

P?

I refer you to what I wrote to the Company, I have long since promised you an account of the management of Affairs in this Country, thinking it fitting you should know matters of that nature since you are so great an Adventurer in it, and make what private use of it you please. Our Governour never yet agreed with any Assembly, except that one that made the stamping Tobacco law which gave him all things asked, and he then Agents places to pick our pockets, but by a good providence we were delivered from them at the same time the Nation was from Bury and Slavery on a certain first day of August else they would have continued as long as he, His high flown principles and proud ambitious temper has made him treat all other assemblies more like footmen than Representatives of the body of the County whenever they opposed him in any thing which made the Differences run high, and the Council met with the same treatment, which engaged all people into parties at Court and Country and to support his cause Juries were pitched to make up Grand juries to deliver fulsome addresses to the Governour and abuse the Council and assembly The same Juries made Addresses from the Courts and even to engage every barefooted fellow to sign Addresses from the Counties but all this availed nothing, Coll<sup>d</sup>. Bird was



acting at home for the Assembly, and Council thought the Governor would never pass a book of Claims from the Assembly that had any thing in it given to Bird, The Lords Orkney, Rygle and other great men were willing to reconcile matters with him, and the Country & Coll: Bird was to motion the matter and the Governor was to give up the great points in Dispute, and advised by the great men to part with all but his honour for Peace sake, but his answer to Birds message was, that his Terms were too Insolent to be complied with, and nothing was talked of but Caining and Kicking but all went off with a little short railery when Bird and he met; His little mistress was just then arrived from an Embassy from Britain. That he must accept these terms or out for Coll. Bird had nothing to do but to return and report his nonacceptance of the Noblemens propositions, and then he would be out which made him cloudy for sometime but then he began to play his old game of Dissimulation and when they least thought of it he melted them with a most humble desire of peace and Friendship and would agree with them in all things and saluted them with a Judas's Kiss. and came from the Council Chamber to the Barr and saluted Mr Holloway who had also been his adversary.



/ This Humble disposition was agreeable to all and <sup>[p. 22]</sup>  
there were great rejoicings throughout the Town for this  
sudden and unexpected reconciliation the next thing  
was to get an assembly of his old Creatures, and  
then he would not value his new friends again  
The Militia was put into their hands the most rank  
 Tories and Enemies to the Government, and Militia  
 Commissions flew about to every fellow that could make  
two or three Votes And as it was expressed in one  
of his letters he gave the power to his Friends, to  
make a discreet use of <sup>him</sup> and indeed never fouler  
play was by men, than at most of our Elections but  
they lost the Majority in the house to the Governors  
great mortification which was openly shewed by him  
in this County and others and the Militia officers have  
ever since plagued the people for it by unavoidable  
fines, but since he could not get an Assembly of his own  
it was but playing the same part with them as he  
had with the Council and cajole them with a fine  
reconciling Speech and assemblies of musick dancing  
feasting &c which took and by the help of some of his  
friends got from them a fine flattering address calling  
him the great, the good, the just, the wise Governor  
&c which he thought bound them & Established him-  
self at home. Then he plaid his Game to Monopolize  
the Frontier lands and cheat the Crown He got them



to address the King to send an hundred Soldgers  
to guard the two passes of the mountains, tho there  
is no such thing there and to give the right of taking  
up such lands which is five Shillings for every fifty  
acres, and to give the Quitrents for ten years, Also  
perswaded the assembly to make the Frontiers on  
our River a New County called Spotsylvania and  
to give a thousand pounds out of the Treasury to  
buy armes, build a Court house and Church the first  
of which is in one room of his owne house, and to  
blocke this the better another County is to be at the  
head of James River but as yet is onely in Imagina-  
tion; Then he getts the assembly to make a law for  
the easie Seating and Sowing Such great Quantities  
of Land as he intends to have, which is effectually  
done When all was secured he prohibits the Surveyors  
from making Surveys for any person, and the Lands  
that he and his Company held before by Surveys, as the  
Nine Tracts where the Iron works are, is Nineteen Thou-  
sand Acres, the Alexandria also his own, the Spotsylvania  
much greater than the rest is now Surveyed to come with  
in the New Law and the bounds extended as farr as  
they can go for the Mountains. a person that knows  
it well tells me it is thirty miles in length and several  
in breadth, in all supposed to be Two hundred thousand  
Acres, This amazes the Country to see such a cheat



upon the brow, the poor people that would settle  
it cannot come in, those that have had surveys  
and better rights has them taken away there is scarce  
any concern in these lands but him and his com-  
pany and suppose the Patents <sup>[p. 22]</sup> are to Issue in the  
Company's name which I suppose are not yet out  
being to stay for the bounty the King is to give  
by the Assembly's Address This is matter of fact  
but not one half of it.

Endorsed Virginia / Copy of a L<sup>r</sup> from / Vir.  
ginia to <sup>writing,</sup> a Merchant at / Bristol <sup>dated 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1721,</sup> relating to the  
conduct of Will Spotswood, / in taking great quantities  
of Land to himself, where / there are Iron Mines.  
Recd from / Mr. H. / Recd } 9<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1721/2. / 2:16 /  
Read }



[p. 29]  
Virginia March the 6<sup>th</sup> 1720

My Lords

Having in my last of the 16<sup>th</sup> of January (of which a Duplicate is inclosed) sent Your Lordships three of the principal Laws pass'd here last Session of Assembly with my Remarks thereon I now transmitt the other Laws made at the same time, together with the Journals of that Session, and shall proceed to such Observations on each, as are necessary for Your Lordps information

The inconvenient length of many of the Countys formerly erected occasioned by the peoples taking up and settling new lands on the Frontiers obliges me to recommend to the Assembly the easing those Inhabitants from the excessive fatigue of travelling so great a distance to their monthly Courts. And in order to Remedy that Inconvenience, here are (besides the Countys of Brunswick and Spotsylvania mentioned in my former letter) two new Countys erected. One by the Act for dividing New Kent County, and the other by the Act for dividing Richmond County, the preambles of which Acts sufficiently setting forth the reason thereof, need no further Comment

The same inconveniency has occasioned the passing the three following Laws Viz An Act for dividing St Johns parish in the County of King William An Act for dividing the parish of Henrico in the County of Henrico, and An Act to divide those parts of the parishes



of Westover and Wyanock which ly on the Southside  
of James River from those parts of the said parishes  
which ly on the North side the said River &c. To  
which may be added another Viz the Act for en-  
larging Charles City County, & consolidating the pa-  
rishes of Westover and Wyanock with Wallingford  
parish. Upon these I shall only trouble Your Lord-  
ships with this Observation, that at the first seat-  
ing of this Country, the people being in fear of  
the Indians fled themselves along the banks of  
the Rivers, not daring to venture out into the  
[p. 90] Woods, and when a competent number of Inhabitants  
were thus seated, they divided their parishes by such  
a distance along the River and built their Churches,  
to suit the conveniency of the then Inhabitants, but  
as the Indians decreased and the English grew more  
numerous these parishes have been enlarged to an un-  
reasonable length by the yearly addition of new Inhabi-  
tants backwards into the woods, and so they have con-  
tinued to this time that it has been found absolutely  
necessary to erect three new parishes and to new modell  
some others so as to render it more easy both for the  
Ministers to do their Duty and for the people to attend  
the publick worship: and this being the true Motive  
of making the Laws abovementioned I doubt not they  
will meet with your Lordships Approbation



The Act for the more effectual preventing the tending of Seconds, is very necessary to restrain a dangerous Abuse, which has proved extremely prejudicial to the Tobacco Trade. What is here called Seconds, is the Sions or Duckers with sprout out from the stalks of tobacco after the plant is cut off, and being tended and Cultivated in the same manner as the first plant, grow up to a leaf almost as large as the other tho' far inferior in goodness & scent, but some of the planters finding they could pass this kind of tobacco, have applied themselves to the making thereof, tho' it has been prohibited by divers Laws, and has not a little contributed to the lessning the value of the good Tobacco And therefore this Law is Enacted, laying a severer penalty upon that offence, which 'tis hoped may be a means of keeping up the reputation and value of that Commodity by which alone this Country subsists.

I need not trouble Your Lordships with any Remarks on the Act for explaining and amending An Act for appointing Rowling houses and publick Landings and ascertaining the prices of Storage Seeing the whole scope of that Law is to render such Rowling houses (which are appointed for recieving Tobacco and other Merchandizes) more convenient for Trade.

The Act for Supply of certain defects found in an Act prescribing the method for appointing Sheriffs has



the appointment of par[?] Agents by the Generall Assem-  
bly of these Plantations: and indeed when [I] found  
Mr Byrd positively deny so much as to give me his  
Bond (which [I] purposed to keep secret) that he would  
Solicit nothing but what should [be] handed to him  
by the mutual Consent of the Governor Council and  
Burgesses, I thought I had reason to apprehend he  
was not so desirous of this publick Character for the  
Service & Interest of his Country as for some other  
private views which perhaps neither of the parties  
from whom he derived his [?] would be willing  
to come into: and I'm sure I shall always have that  
regard for Your Lordships ease as not to increase your  
trouble by the un[?] Memorialls of private Agents,  
when I am very sensible that the Representations of the  
Affairs of this Government which I am obliged to make  
to Your Lordships must employ a good deal of your time,  
and I am confident will always have their due  
weight if judgd to be for his Majestys Service and the  
publick Welfare of this Colony: and if they are not, I  
can see no reason why Your Lordships should be vexed  
with impertinent solicitations about them. Having at  
the opening of this Session laid before the Assembly  
that part of Your Lordships Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> of June which  
relates to renewing the Covenant Chain with the In-  
dians of the five Nations, Your Lordships will find

Page of leaf mutilated

[first paragraph  
copied from]



in the Burgesses Journal of the 21<sup>st</sup> of December the  
Sentiments of the Council & Burgesses, that no such  
Treaty should be moved untill those Nations or the  
Government of New York in their behalf have agreed  
to the Preliminaries offered to them in the year 1717,  
And I have transmitted to Mr Burnett a copy of  
the Assemblys Address and expect his Answer there-  
to in a short time, and I hope the publick de-  
claration which the Assembly has now made with  
respect to those Indians will serve to reconcile  
my Letter to Your Lordships of the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1718,  
with that to Col<sup>o</sup> Schuyler the 25<sup>th</sup> of January 1719.  
In the first I spoke my own Sentiments, and what  
I wished to have done, And in the last what I knew  
to be the general humour of the people here, who  
will never be persuaded that its worth while to be at  
the expence of treating with those Indians without  
some better Security than the bare promises of some  
of their Sachims. [I am with great Respect

My Lords

Your Lordships

Most Dutiful & / Most Obedient

Humble Servant

[original] R Spotwood.]

[p. 100] Endorsed Virginia / Be from Col<sup>o</sup> Spotwood, L<sup>t</sup> / Gov<sup>r</sup>  
of Virginia, dated 2<sup>d</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> March / 1722. / Read May 1<sup>st</sup> 1721. / 2: 18.  
Read June 1<sup>st</sup> 1722.



Virginia June the 11<sup>th</sup> 1722. [P. 131.]

My Lords

I have not been honoured with any of Your Lordships commands, since I transmitted the proceedings of the General Assembly in 1720: and tho I hoped, and the People of the Country generally expected some signification of His Majestys pleasure upon the Quit Rent Law, and the encouragement of the new Countys, before another Session of Assembly had been necessary, yet having no advice that any Resolutions were taken in either of those points, I judged it necessary to convene the Assembly this Spring, and am now to inform Your Lordships of the most remarkable proceedings therein reserving my general Observations to the usual Letter intended to accompany the Laws and Journals w<sup>ch</sup> are not yet transcribed being the Session ended only the 4<sup>th</sup> instant.

In order to give Your Lordships a Sketch of what has chiefly been under deliberation this Session, I need only recommend to Your perusal the inclosed Copies of my Speeches at the opening the Assembly the several Addresses of the Council and Burgesses, and my Speech at the Prorogation: in which Your Lordships will also observe the perfect harmony there is in the Government, and the general Disposition of the Country And that Your Lordships may yet be further Satisfy'd



concerning its easy 'circumstances, the inclosed Ac-  
counts of His Majesty's Revenue will show how  
large a balance remains for the Support of the  
Government after defraying all that extraordinary charge  
[p. 132] which has accrued for fortifying the Mouths of the  
great Rivers.

As the Colony is now secured against the at-  
tempts of Pyrates and other Enemies on its Sea Frontiers  
by the erection of sundry substantial Batteries whereon  
near Sixty pieces of Cannon are already mounted and  
all necessary Stores of War, supplied; So in pursuance  
of the unanimous desires of both Houses of Assembly,  
I am now preparing for a Journey to Albany in or-  
der to secure the Land Frontiers by concluding a  
Treaty with the five Nations upon such a Basis as  
I hope will effectually encourage the People to extend  
their Out Settlements without any future apprehensions  
of danger from Indian Enemies

This, My Lords, is the present Situation of af-  
fairs in this Government And I doubt not such a  
Prospect will be as agreeable to Your Lordships as it is  
satisfactory to me. If the angry proceedings of the  
Assembly in the year 1718, occasioned a more than ordinary  
trouble to Your Board Your Lordships will now have the satis-  
faction to find the protection you had the goodness to  
afford me on that occasion, abundantly justified by the



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proceedings in 1722, and those clamours declared to be  
groundless w<sup>ch</sup> were intended to deprive me of any  
further share in your good Opinion And as to my  
self, I have the pleasure of seeing my whole twelve  
years administration receive so ample a Testimony of  
the approbation both of the Council and the Repre-  
sentatives of the People, that I hope whatever impu-  
tations have been <sup>on</sup> my conduct heretofore will be  
looked upon as the effects of some people's private passions  
rather than any real occasions given on my part.

[I am with the greatest Respect

My Lords

Your Lordships

Most Dutiful &

Most Obedient Humble Servant

(original) R. Spotswood]

Endorsed Virginia / L<sup>d</sup> from W<sup>m</sup> Spotswood / L<sup>d</sup> Gov<sup>t</sup> [1722]

of Virginia, dated the / 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1722. /

Recd Aug<sup>st</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1722  
Read W<sup>m</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> / 2: 25.



[1712]

The Account of His Majesty's Revenue of Quitt Rents &c  
from the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1720 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 Received within  
the Colony of Virginia

The Rec<sup>d</sup>. General doth Charge himself  
with the receipts of the S<sup>r</sup>. Revenue as follows.

To Balance of the Last Rec <sup>d</sup> ended the 25 <sup>th</sup> of April 1720..	£	7971.	5.	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
To former arrears collected by the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General .....	..	15.	6.	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
To the Quitt Rents of the Northern Neck for the year 1719..	..	6.	13.	4
To the Rec <sup>d</sup> of Compositions for Cheated Lands .....	..	5.	7.	- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

Quitt Rents for the year 1720

Counties Names	No Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		14 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> at lowest for Col <sup>d</sup> . Salary	10 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> at lowest for Col <sup>d</sup> . Salary				
Accomack ..	229554	.....	55092	Not Sold			
Charles City ..	19248	.....	.....	£19.	4.	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	56988	.....	3877.	3/4 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	13.	6.	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Gloucester City ..	25396	.....	.....	25.	7.	11	
Do ..	6805	.....	1632 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8/6 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	6.	18.	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Warren ..	182425	.....	.....	182.	8.	6	
Do ..	55761	.....	13382.	4/6 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	50.	2.	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Gloucester ..	156592	.....	.....	156.	11.	10	
Do ..	1480	.....	335.	9/4 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	1.	11.	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Henrico ..	225656	53672	.....	5/4 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	90.	10.	2
James City ..	111707	.....	.....	111.	14.	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	5560	.....	306.	8/4 ..	3.	7.	2
Isle of Wight ..	3165	.....	.....	8.	5.	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	174164	41799	.....	2/10 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	59.	4.	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
King William ..	182794	.....	.....	182.	15.	10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	
Do ..	2107	.....	505.	10/12 C <sup>t</sup> ..	2.	10.	6
King & Queen ..	229248	.....	.....	229.	4.	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	6687	.....	1654.	8/4 ..	6.	13.	8
Middlesex ..	70774	.....	.....	70.	15.	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	1550	.....	84.	12/6 p <sup>ts</sup> C <sup>t</sup> ..	8.	9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	
Norfolk ..	2230	.....	.....	2.	4.	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Do ..	151680	56405	.....	Not Sold			



Counties Names	No Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		14 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. al. allowed for Coll <sup>d</sup> Salary	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. al. allowed for Coll <sup>d</sup> Salary				
Norfolk	400				9	-	
Do	119941	28785		3/4 p <sup>t</sup> B <sup>t</sup>	43	3	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northampton							
New Kent	230608				230	12	2
Do	200		48	5/4 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	4	-	
Prince George	13252				13	5	- $\frac{1}{2}$
Do	124756	29941		3/4 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	44	18	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Princess Anne							
Surry	25881				25	17	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Do	139077	38175		3/4 p <sup>t</sup> B <sup>t</sup>	38	17	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Warwick	38774				38	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Do	300		72	5/4 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	6	-	
York	68825				68	16	6

1715. 9. - $\frac{1}{4}$

9715. 1. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

[p. 110]

Procure of Quitt Rents for the year 1719. paid in the year 1720

Counties Names	No Acres	Paid in Tob <sup>o</sup>		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		14 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. allowed for Coll <sup>d</sup> Salary	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. allowed for Coll <sup>d</sup> Salary				
Recomacke	11700				11	14	-
Do	217714		12550	last year b <sup>t</sup> p <sup>t</sup>	37	13	-
			34476	not sold			
Northampton	41450				41	9	-
Do	62624		15044	4 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	45	2	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Slip <sup>d</sup> City	20955				20	19	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Do	590		141 $\frac{1}{2}$	3/6 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	12	-	
Isle of Wight	49002	11760		3/10 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	16	13	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Standonmond	67209	16130		not sold			

174. 2. 11

Procure of Quitt Rents for the year 1718 paid in the year 1720

Recomacke	63329 $\frac{1}{2}$				63	6	7
Standonmond	36000				36	-	-
Do	109111	26186		2/6 p <sup>t</sup> C <sup>t</sup>	32	14	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

132. 1. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

So that the whole receipt amounts 10021. 5. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$



[p. 118.]

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself

By the payment of the following Sums Out of the Zuit Rents.

By a Warrant to the Commissary for one years Sallary ending this day .....	£	100.	-	-
By a Warrant to the Attorney General for One years Sallary ending this day .....		60.	-	-
By a Warrant to Nath: Blackiston Esq: for one years Sallary ending this day .....		200.	-	-
By His Majesty's Warrant to Henry Rainsford Esq: for his annuity ending the 24 <sup>th</sup> of March 1720/1. ....	}	500.	-	-
By His Majesty's Warrant to Nath: Blackiston Esq: dated at Merenhausen the 19 <sup>th</sup> day of July. O.S. 1720 for ....		1000.	-	-
By His Majesty's Warrant to Horatio Walpole Esq: dated at Merenhausen the 19 <sup>th</sup> day of July. O.S. 1720. for ....	}	500.	-	-
By an Allowance of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ pcent to The Receiver General on £3000 by Order of Government here .....		165.	-	-
By Sallary to the Sherifs for Collecting Diuplt. on £1688. 11. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..		168.	17.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
By Sallary to the Sherifs for Collecting Diuplt. on 556. 1. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..		47.	-	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
By Allowance to the Auditor @ 5 pcent on .... 1804. 1. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..		91.	14.	- $\frac{3}{4}$
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum ..		91.	14.	- $\frac{3}{4}$
So that the Sum Disbursd amounts to ....	£	2724.	6.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
And there remains due to Balance this acct ..		7296.	19.	- $\frac{1}{4}$
	£	10021.	5.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$

Wm Cole W R. Genl



[p. 16] May 6<sup>th</sup> 1721

I Have Carefully Examined the within Receipt of His Majesty's Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1720 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 and compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by Mr. William Cole D<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> and find the Charge thereof amounting to Ten Thousand Twenty one Pounds Five Shillings and three pence half penny and the Discharge to two Thousand Seven hundred and Twenty four Pounds Six Shillings and three pence farthing both truly stated. So that there will be due to His Majesty's Revenue for Balance of this Receipt the sum of Seven Thousand Two Hundred Ninety six pounds Nine teen Shillings and one farthing Sterling

John Hynes Dep<sup>y</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

May 6<sup>th</sup> 1721

The within Receipt compared and Examined by John Hynes Esq<sup>r</sup> D<sup>y</sup> Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by Mr. Will<sup>m</sup> Cole D<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup> General

W<sup>m</sup>

[p. 16] R Spotswood

Endorsed

Virginia / Rec<sup>d</sup> of the Quitrents / April 1721

[p. 17]

Endorsed Virginia / Account of the Quit-Rents /  
from April the 25<sup>th</sup> 1720, / to April 25<sup>th</sup> 1721. / rec<sup>d</sup> with  
Col<sup>l</sup> Spotswoods / Pre of 31<sup>st</sup> May 1721. /  
Rec<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1721. /  
Rec<sup>d</sup> June 12<sup>th</sup> 1722. / 2. 21. / 8



[unclear]

The Receipt of His Majesty's Revenue of 2/3<sup>d</sup> Hogsheds  
 arising within this Colony of Virginia. from the 25<sup>th</sup> of Octo-  
 ber 1720 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 -

The Receiver General doth Charge himself  
 with the receipts of the S<sup>r</sup> revenue as followeth -

To Balance of the Last acct. ....	£ 2991.	—	2
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the Upper District of James River . . . . .	103.	19.	2
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the Lower District of James River . . . . .	38.	5.	1½
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the District of York River . . . . .	249.	15.	8½
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the District of Rappahannock River . . . . .	269.	2.	2
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the District of South Potomack . . . . .	68.	12.	11½
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of the Port of Accomack . . . . .	—	—	—
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of Sundry Rights of Land Sold . . . . .	146.	19.	7½
The Recd <sup>t</sup> of Fines and Forfeitures . . . . .	21.	8.	8
	5889.	6.	6½

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
 by the Payment of the following Sums -

By half a years Salary to the Governor . . . . .	1000.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Council . . . . .	175.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations . . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia . . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Attorney General . . . . .	20.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Clerk of the Council . . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Gunner at James Town . . . . .	8.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Drummer . . . . .	6.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending on the Court of Sessions . . . . .	10.	—	—
By a Warrant to Capt John Martin for the Loss of his Sloop Ranger and other Charges expended by him on his Voyage with the Flag of Truce to St. Augustine . . . . .	499.	6.	7½
By a Warrant for contingent Charges . . . . .	85.	5.	3½
By allowance to the Auditor 25 p <sup>ts</sup> or £898. 6. 4½ . . . . .	44.	18.	3½
By allowance to the Rec <sup>t</sup> Gen <sup>l</sup> on the same Sum . . . . .	44.	18.	3½
So that the Sum Disbursed amounts to	2058.	8.	6½
and there will remain due to Bal <sup>d</sup> this Acct	1830.	18.	—½
£ 3889.	6.	6½	

W<sup>m</sup> Cole & R<sup>d</sup> Kent



[p. 120.] May 6<sup>th</sup> 1721

I have examined the within account of His Majesty's Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1720 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 and have compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Cole Esq<sup>r</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup> General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Nine pounds Six Shillings and Six pence half penny and the Discharge to Two Thousand Thirty Eight pounds Eight Shillings and Six pence farthing both truly stated so that there is due to His Majesty's Revenue for Balance of this account One Thousand Eight hundred and fifty pounds Eighteen Shillings and one farthing Sterling

John Grymes Dep<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup>

May 6<sup>th</sup> 1721

The Within Receipt compared and examined by John Grymes Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Cole Esq<sup>r</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup> General

[aut.] R Spotswood

[p. 121] Endorsed Virginia / Account of his Majesty's / Revenue of 2 Sh: to 2 logshead / arising within the Colony of / Virginia, from 25<sup>th</sup> October 1720, / to 25<sup>th</sup> April 1721, / recd with / Col<sup>l</sup> Spotswood's / L<sup>tr</sup> of 31<sup>st</sup> May 1721. / Recd Oct 16<sup>th</sup> 1721. / Read June 12<sup>th</sup> 1722. / 2. 22

Also Endorsed Virginia / Receipt of the 2 logshead / April 1721



[p. 108.]

The Receipt of His Majesties Revenue of Quit Rents &c.  
 from the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 to the 25 of April 1722 Raising within  
 the Colony of Virginia

To part of the Balance of the Last Receipt ended  
 the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 Still remaining due from the Ex<sup>r</sup> of  
 the Late Red. Genl. to be paid into the Exchequer pursuant  
 to His Majesties Warrant. . . . . } 5491. 7. 7½

The Red Genl doth Charge himself  
 with the receipt of the said Revenue as follows

To the remaining part of the Balance of the Last Receipt . . . 1503 11. 5½  
 To Sundry old Debts Collected by the Receiver General . . . 22 6. 6  
 To the Quit Rents of the Northern Neck for the Year 1720 &c. . . 15 6. 8  
 To the Recd of Compositions for Uncheated Lands . . . 1 9. -

Quit Rents for the Year 1721

Counties Names	No of Piers	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh: 1000 <sup>th</sup>	Sh: 1000 <sup>th</sup>				
Accomack . . .	229515	...	55085	4/10 p <sup>th</sup>	255.	2.	4
Ditto . . .	116	...	...	...	...	2.	4
Brunswick . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charles City . .	19154	...	...	...	19.	2.	1
Ditto . . .	666103	...	15996	5/6 p <sup>th</sup>	27.	19.	6
Elizabeth City .	17075	...	...	...	17.	1.	6
Ditto . . .	15446	...	5404	8/4 p <sup>th</sup>	15.	8.	11
Essex . . .	160083	...	...	...	160.	1.	9
Ditto . . .	4580	...	1051	9/ p <sup>th</sup>	4.	14.	7
Gloucester . .	159461	...	...	...	159.	9.	28
Ditto . . .	200	...	48	9/6 p <sup>th</sup>	...	4.	6½
Hannover . . .	150869	...	...	...	150.	17.	28
Ditto . . .	15227	...	5654	9/ p <sup>th</sup>	16.	8.	10½
Henrico . . .	55937	...	...	...	55.	18.	9
Ditto . . .	256459	56745	...	5/6 p <sup>th</sup>	99.	6.	-3
James City . .	78096	...	...	...	78.	1.	11
Ditto . . .	4327	...	1058½	9/2 p <sup>th</sup>	4.	15.	2½
Isle of Wight . .	2325	...	...	...	2.	6.	6
Ditto . . .	195456	46909	...	5/1 p <sup>th</sup>	119.	4.	6½
King William .	166806	...	...	...	166.	10.	18
Ditto . . .	680	...	165	9/8 p <sup>th</sup>	...	14.	18
King & Queen .	208053	...	...	...	208.	-	8
Ditto . . .	7229	...	1754	8/6 p <sup>th</sup>	7.	7.	4½
Riddell . . .	68516	...	...	...	68.	6.	4



Counties Names	No of Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh: 5s 11 1/4 p <sup>ts</sup>	Sh: 5s 10 p <sup>ts</sup>				
[Middlesex]..	5155	.....	...787	9/12 <sup>cts</sup>	2	8	12
Stancemond..	54424	52262	.....	3/6 p <sup>ts</sup>	56	9	2
Worfolk ..	2654	.....	.....	.....	2	12	82
Ditto .....	116292	27910	.....	3/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	45	-	62
Northampton..	98797	.....	25701	4/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	45	7	92
Ditto .....	4850	.....	.....	.....	4	17	-
New Kent ..	78558	.....	.....	.....	78	11	92
Prince George	54965	52591	.....	4/3 p <sup>ts</sup>	65	16	72
Ditto .....	240	.....	.....	.....	5	5	
Princess Ann..	116455	28016	.....	4/6 p <sup>ts</sup>	65	-	82
Ditto .....	495	.....	.....	.....	9	102	
Spotylvania..							
Curry .....	176920	42460	.....	4/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	84	18	42
Ditto .....	6280	.....	.....	.....	6	5	72
Warwick .....	58405	.....	.....	.....	55	14	12
York .....	69047	.....	.....	.....	69	-	112

2042 4 52  
£ 9576 8 62

[p. 204]

Barrears of Quit Rents for the year 1720 paid in the year 1721

Counties Names	No of Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh: 5s 11 1/4 p <sup>ts</sup>	Sh: 5s 10 p <sup>ts</sup>				
Reconack ..	229554	.....	55092	2/6 p <sup>ts</sup>	£65	14	52
Stancemond..	51680	56405	.....	2/8 p <sup>ts</sup>	48	10	82
Princess Ann..	97457	12769	.....	2/6 p <sup>ts</sup>	15	19	22
		10616	.....	3/2 p <sup>ts</sup>	16	16	2
Ditto .....	15400	.....	.....	.....	15	8	-
Henrico ..	42898	.....	.....	.....	42	17	112
Northampton	96775	.....	25235	4/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	47	8	42
Ditto .....	5575	.....	.....	.....	5	11	6
Curry .....	600	144	.....	4/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	.....	5	9
Isle of Wight.	415	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	52
Ditto .....	844	202	.....	5/1 p <sup>ts</sup>	.....	10	5

£262 15 6

Barrears of Quit Rents for the year 1719 paid in the year 1721

Reconack ..	.....	.....	54446	2/6 p <sup>ts</sup>	£45	1	102
Stancemond ..	.....	16150	.....	2/8 p <sup>ts</sup>	21	10	12
Princess Ann..	20668	.....	.....	.....	20	15	42
Prince George	67154	.....	.....	.....	67	2	82
Northampton	50	.....	12	4/1	.....	.....	52

£152 8 7

£ 9794 7 72



The Receiver General doth Discharge himself

[pms.]

By the payment of the following Sums Out of the Rent Rents

By His Majesties Warrant to Henry Reinsford Esq: } for his Penury Ending the 24 <sup>th</sup> day of March 1721/2	£ 500.	--	--
By a Warrant to Nath <sup>l</sup> Blakiston Esq: for one years Salary Ending this day . . . . .	200.	--	--
By a Warrant to the Comptroller for one years Salary Ending this day . . . . .	100.	--	--
By a Warrant to the Attorney General for one years Salary Ending this day . . . . .	60.	--	--
By His Majesties Warr <sup>t</sup> to M <sup>r</sup> Sica. Ferry dated at St James's 4 <sup>th</sup> March 1720/1 . . . . .	527.	1.	4
By Ditto to M <sup>r</sup> . Drwin & Solomon Wilson dated at Kensington 29 Sept <sup>r</sup> 1721. . . . .	100.	--	--
By Salary to the Sheriff for Collecting at 10 p <sup>ts</sup> on £1922.10.4 <sup>ts</sup>	192.	5.	--
By Ditto . . . to Ditto . . . . . at 14 p <sup>ts</sup> on £534.16.1 <sup>ts</sup>	74.	17.	5.
By a further allowance to y <sup>e</sup> Sheriff of Surry County for his Extraordinary trouble in Collecting the 2 <sup>d</sup> Rents for y <sup>e</sup> years 1720 & 1721 pursuant to Ord <sup>r</sup> of Gov <sup>t</sup> . . . . .	9.	12.	5 <sup>ts</sup>
By an allowance to the Rec <sup>d</sup> . Gen <sup>l</sup> on £1908. 5. 5 <sup>ts</sup> paid him by the Exec <sup>r</sup> . of the Late Rec <sup>d</sup> . Gen <sup>l</sup> in Cur <sup>t</sup> money at y <sup>e</sup> rate the 2 <sup>d</sup> Rents is rec <sup>d</sup> . & also on £1518. 16. 6 rec <sup>d</sup> on the same Rec <sup>d</sup> this present year to enable him to procure Bills of Exchange at the common al- lowance of 15 p <sup>ts</sup> for remitting of said Sums to London pursuant to Order of Government . . . . .	192.	15.	4 <sup>ts</sup>
By allowance to the Auditor at 5 p <sup>ts</sup> on £2227. 6. 1 <sup>ts</sup> . . . . .	111.	7.	5 <sup>ts</sup>
By allowance to the Rec <sup>d</sup> . Gen <sup>l</sup> on said Sum . . . . .	111.	7.	5 <sup>ts</sup>
So that the Sum disbursed amounts to . . . . .	£ 1979.	6.	2
And there will remain due to Balance this Acct <sup>t</sup> Including y <sup>e</sup> Sum of £549. 7. 7 <sup>ts</sup> in y <sup>e</sup> hands of y <sup>e</sup> Ex <sup>r</sup> of y <sup>e</sup> Late Rec <sup>d</sup> Gen <sup>l</sup> . . . . .	7812.	1.	5 <sup>ts</sup>
	£ 1979.	7.	7 <sup>ts</sup>

John Anymes Rec<sup>d</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>.



June 4<sup>th</sup> 1722

I have Carefully Examined the foregoing Account of His Majesties Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 and Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Brynes Esq<sup>r</sup> Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Nine thousand seven hundred ninety one Pounds Seven Shillings Seven pence farthing. And the Discharge to one thousand nine hundred seventy eight Pounds six Shillings two pence both truly Stated. So that there is due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Account Seven thousand eight hundred thirteen Pounds one shilling five pence farthing Sterling

Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

June 4<sup>th</sup> 1722.

This Account Compared & Examined by Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council & sworn to by John Brynes Esq<sup>r</sup> Rec<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>

[ans] At Spotswood

[pub] Endorsed Virginia / Rec<sup>t</sup> of his M<sup>ty</sup> Quit Rents /  
from y<sup>t</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> April 1721 to the / 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722. / rec<sup>d</sup>  
w<sup>th</sup> Coll Spotswoods / L<sup>d</sup> of 11<sup>th</sup> June 1722 /  
Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1722 / 2: 27. / 4  
Read D<sup>y</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>



The Receipt of His Majesty's Revenue of 2/10<sup>th</sup> hogshead <sup>[p. 107]</sup>  
 arising within this Colony of Virginia from the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 to  
 the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721.

The Rec <sup>d</sup> . General doth Discharge himself with the receipts of the R <sup>y</sup> . Revenue as followeth			
To Balance of the last Rec <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	£ 1850.	18.	½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Upper District of James River. . . . .	639.	9.	8½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Lower District of James River. . . . .			
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of York River. . . . .	1435.	5.	2½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of Rappahannock River. . . . .	1078.	1.	7½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of South Potomack. . . . .	531.	8.	2½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Port of Accomack. . . . .	68.	14.	11½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of Sundry Rights of Land Sold. . . . .	131.	11.	2½
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of Fines and Forfeitures. . . . .	174.	10.	11½
	5970.	2.	11
The Rec <sup>d</sup> . General doth Discharge himself By the Payment of the following Sums —			
By half a years Salary to the Governor. . . . .	1000.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Council. . . . .	175.	—	—
By a warrant to the Judges, Clerks and other Officers of a Court of Oyer and Termin <sup>t</sup> . . . . .	100.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia. . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations. . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Attorney General. . . . .	20.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Clerk of the Council. . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Gunner at James Town. . . . .	5.	—	—
By half a years Salary to the Drummer. . . . .	6.	—	—
By a warrant to the ministers attending one General Court. . . . .	6.	—	—
By a warrant for contingent Charges. . . . .	104.	13.	—
By a warrant to the Governor for his Expenses in erect- ing Batterys for defence of the Rivers. . . . .	400.	—	—
By Allowance to the Auditor at 3 p <sup>ts</sup> on £4119. 4. 10½. . . . .	205.	19.	2½
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum. . . . .	205.	19.	2½
So that the sum disbursed amounts to . . . . .	£ 2678.	15.	5½
and there will remain due to ball <sup>d</sup> this acc <sup>t</sup> . . . . .	3291.	9.	5½
	£ 5970.	2.	11



[p. 148] Novemb<sup>r</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> 1721

I have Examined the within Receipt of His Ma:  
jesties Revenue Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1721 and ending  
the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721 and compared every Article with its  
Proper Voucher Produced by S<sup>r</sup>. William Cole Deputy Re:  
ceiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Five  
Thousand Nine hundred and Seventy Pounds two shillings and  
Six pence and the Discharge to Two Thousand Six hundred  
Twenty Eight Pounds thirteen shillings and five pence half  
penny, both truly stated, so that there remains due to His Ma:  
jesties revenue for Ballance of this Receipt Three Thousand  
Two hundred Ninety One pounds Nine shillings and five  
pence half penny Sterling

John Grymes Dep<sup>t</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

Novemb<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1721

The within Receipt Compared and Examined by John  
Grymes Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Auditor was Produced to me in Council &  
sworn to by S<sup>r</sup>. William Cole Deputy Receiver General

[auto] R. Spotswood

[p. 150] Endorsed Virginia / Rec<sup>t</sup> of the Revenue / of 2<sup>d</sup> p  
Hogshead from the / 25<sup>th</sup> of April to the 25<sup>th</sup> of / Octob<sup>r</sup> 1721  
Rec<sup>d</sup> May 23<sup>rd</sup> }  
Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>st</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> } 1722 / 2: 27  
28



The Account of His Majesties Revenue of 2/ p<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> vis  
ing within this Colony of Virginia from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721 to  
the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722.

<p>Report of the Balance of the Last Receipt ended the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721 still remaining due from the Board of the Late Rec<sup>d</sup> General</p>		£ 750	8	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
<p>The Rec<sup>d</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> doth discharge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows</p>				
To money Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Gen <sup>l</sup> of the Late Rec <sup>d</sup> General	£ 1502	1	2	
To a further Balance paid him by the Naval Officer of the Low <sup>d</sup> District of James River omitted in the last Receipt	£ 301	5	0	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Upper District of James River	£ 66	6	2	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Lower District of James River	£ 84	11	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of York River	£ 147	6	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of Rappahannock River	£ 196	10	5	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the District of South Potomack	£ 45	14	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of the Port of Accomack				
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of Sundry Rights of Land Sold	£ 77	7	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
The Rec <sup>d</sup> of fines & forfeitures	£ 204	12	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
	£ 4415	9	- $\frac{1}{2}$	
<p>The Receiver General doth discharge himself by the payment of y<sup>e</sup> following Sums</p>				
By half a years Salary to the Governor	£ 1000	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Council	£ 175	-	-	
By a Warr <sup>t</sup> to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer	£ 100	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations	£ 50	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia	£ 50	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Attorney General	£ 20	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Clerk of the Council	£ 30	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Runner at James Town	£ 5	-	-	
By half a years Salary to the Remourer	£ 6	-	-	
By a Warr <sup>t</sup> to the Ministers attending one Gen <sup>l</sup> Court	£ 4	-	-	
By a Warr <sup>t</sup> for contingent Charges	£ 44	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	



By a Warrant to John Tyler for his Expenses in Erecting Batterys for defence of the Rivers. . . . .	404	-	-
By allowance to the Auditor & 5 pl <sup>ts</sup> on £1125.. 19. 4...	56	2.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
By allowance to the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General on the same Summe	56	2.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
So that the Sum disbursed Amounts to...£	2020	11.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
And there will remain due to Bal <sup>l</sup> this Acc <sup>t</sup> } [foot of page cut away]	2394	14.	10 $\frac{1}{2}$

[p. 122.] June 7<sup>th</sup> 1722

I have Examined the within Receipt of His Majesties Revenue Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721 & ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Brymes Esq<sup>r</sup> Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Four thousand four hundred fifteen Pounds nine shillings one half penny. And the Discharge to Two thousand twenty Pounds Eleven shillings one Penny three farthings both truly Stated So that there remains due to His Majesties Revenue for Balance of this Receipt Two thousand three hundred ninety four Pounds Seventeen Shillings ten pence three farthings Sterling

Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

June 7<sup>th</sup> 1722

The within Receipt Compared and Examined by Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council & Sworn to by John Brymes Esq<sup>r</sup> Rec<sup>d</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>

R Spotswood

[p. 124] Endorsed Virginia / Account of his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Revenue of 2<sup>d</sup> p<sup>ar</sup>  
 thid &c from ye / 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1721, to the / 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 / re.  
 ceived w<sup>th</sup> R<sup>l</sup> Spotswood's / D<sup>y</sup> of 11<sup>th</sup> June 1722 /  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1722 / 2: 28  
 Read D<sup>y</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>



The Receipt of His Majesty's Revenue of 2/- p<sup>h</sup>h. &c. <sup>(p. 47)</sup>  
 Arising within this Colony of Virginia from the  
 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1722.

To part of the Balance of the last Receipt ended the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722. Still remaining due from the Care of the Late Rec<sup>d</sup>. General. £ 372. 16. 7½

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To the remaining part of the Balance of the last Receipt	£ 522.	1.	3¼
The Receipt of the Upper District of James River . . . . .	458.	10.	7½
The Receipt of the Lower District of James River . . . . .	219.	18.	7
The Receipt of the District of York River . . . . .	1204.	4.	10½
The Receipt of the District of Rappahannock River . . . . .	763.	15.	— ½
The Receipt of the District of South Potomack . . . . .	479.	4.	3¼
The Receipt of the Port of Accomack . . . . .	—	—	—
The Receipt of sundry Rights of Land sold . . . . .	114.	12.	—
The Receipt of Fines and Forfeitures . . . . .	27.	11.	0
The Net proceed of 60 Ounces of Gold Dust Rec <sup>d</sup> from Col <sup>o</sup> Spotswood It being part of the Pyratial of Vests condemned in this Colony . . . . .	228.	—	—

£ 5890. 19. 7

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
 By the Payment of the following Sums.

By a Warrant to the Hon <sup>ble</sup> Alex <sup>d</sup> Spotswood for his Salary to the 26 <sup>th</sup> Sep <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	£ 841.	10.	7
By the Governors Salary ending this day . . . . .	158.	9.	5
By half a Years Salary to the Council . . . . .	175.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Judges and other officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer . . . . .	100.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations . . . . .	50.	—	—
By Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia from the 25 <sup>th</sup> of June . . . . .	34.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Attorney General . . . . .	20.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council . . . . .	50.	—	—



By a Warrant to the Runners of the several Plantations & James City . . . . .	25.	5.	6
By half a years Salary to the Remover . . . . .	6.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending one Gent Court & Assembly . . . . .	12.	—	—
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges . . . . .	66.	12.	—
By allowance to the Auditor at 5 pcent on £3496. 1. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	174.	16.	1
By allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum	174.	16.	1
So that the Sum Disbursed amounts to £	1558.	15.	8
And there will remain due to Ballance this Receipt } when the above Ballance of £572. 16. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ is Received. }	4002.	5.	11
	£	5990.	19. 7

John Brynes Rec<sup>te</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>

(p. 72) Nov<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>. 1722.

I have Examined the within Receipt of His Majesties Revenue Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1722. And have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Brynes Esq<sup>r</sup>. Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Five thousand Eight hundred Ninety Pounds Nineteen shillings and seven pence. And the Discharge to One thousand Eight hundred Eighty Eight Pounds Fifteen shillings and eight pence, both truly stated. So that there remains due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Receipt Four thousand two Pounds three shillings eleven pence Sterling

Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Dy<sup>y</sup> Aud<sup>t</sup>

November 2<sup>d</sup>. 1722.

The within Receipt Compared and Examined by Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Brynes Esq<sup>r</sup>. Receiver General.

(auto) Hugh Drysdale

(p. 73) Endorsed. Virginia / Rec<sup>ot</sup> of His Majesties Revenue / of 2 / p<sup>th</sup> / arising within the Colony / of Virginia from 25<sup>th</sup> April 1722 to 25<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> following. / reced with H<sup>u</sup> Drysdale Esq<sup>r</sup> / of 20<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1722. / Read Feby 15<sup>th</sup> 1723 / Read 15<sup>th</sup> June 1723 / 2:52. / 5



My Lords

(p. 63)

The few opportunities there are of writing from hence in the latter season of the year, has prevented till now my doing my self the hon<sup>r</sup>. of begining with your Lordships Board that Correspondence which his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Service, and the duty of my office requires.

I arrived here on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> and on the 27<sup>th</sup> the Council met, when my Comission was published, and I took the usuall Oaths:

The publick Transactions since, have been so little remarkable, that I need not enlarge upon them, and shall but briefly mention those that are most Materiall: which are, the dissolving the Genl<sup>l</sup> Assembly called by Col<sup>l</sup>. Spotswood, and issuing Writts for a new One, as I understand has been usuall here, upon the arrivall of a new Governour, and the proroguing the same to the 9<sup>th</sup> of May next, as your Lordships may observe by the journalls of the Council, and proclamations which goe herewith:

I find the inhabitants of this Colony have very much at heart, and are extremely sollicitous to know what success attended the petition of the generall Assembly in the year 1720 addressed to the King, praying a remittance of the Rights and 2<sup>th</sup> P<sup>ts</sup>. (p. 64)



for ten Succeeding Years, as an Encouragement to  
their Settling in two frontier Counties newly erected:

Great quantities of lands have been entered  
for in these new Counties, in expectation of having  
the favours of those Concessions granted to them:  
but now they seem to neglect proceeding on their  
intended Settlements, being discouraged by the  
long delay made to their humble Supplications  
and apprehending a deniall; the Council on  
their meeting, were unanimously of Opinion,  
that the proposed exemptions will in the  
Consequence prove beneficiall to his Majesties  
revenue, as well as the generall Security and  
increase of the trade of this Country, and ac-  
cordingly they have directed the Solicitor of  
the Colony Affairs in England to renew his  
Application to his Majesty on that head, and  
to offer to his Royall Consideration the reasons  
which are contained in the paper here inclosed N<sup>o</sup> 3

Your Lordships will also observe on the  
Council Journals that the Solicitor is like-  
wise directed to apply to his Majesty for his  
Royall approbation to an Act passed in the  
same Year. 1720. for the better paymt. of his  
Maj<sup>ties</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> R<sup>o</sup>.

This Act together with the petition of the



Assembly being prior long to my appointment as  
Lieut Gov: I will not presume to offer an <sup>[p. 165.]</sup> Opinion  
of my own to your Lordships, in such nice points,  
but submit them to the more penetrating judge-  
ments of your Lordships: I only crave leave  
to observe to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships, that the Act is look-  
ed upon here as a beneficial law, for the interest  
of the Crown, and the granting the Contents of  
the petition would give intire satisfaction to the  
inhabitants of this Colony.

Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood did not return from his  
negotiations at Albany with the five Nations till  
the latter End of October; the journall of his  
transactions there not being yet compleated, I  
shall forbear troubling your Lordships with any  
part of that Treaty till I am enabled to transmit  
the whole, w<sup>ch</sup> I hope may be by next Conveyance.

Sometime before my arrivall here a discovery  
was made of an intended insurrection of the Ne-  
groes, in two or three Counties. Divers of the ring-  
leaders have been taken up & tryed, Others are  
continued over in prison, till next gen<sup>l</sup> Court,  
in expectation of further prooff: the designe of  
these Slaves was to cutt off their Masters, & pos-  
sess themselves of the Country; but as this would  
have been as impracticable in the attempt as it was



foolish in the contrivance; I can foresee no other  
consequence of this conspiracy than the stirring  
<sup>[p. 166]</sup> up the next Assembly to make more severe  
laws for keeping their slaves in greater subjection:

I herewith transmit to your L<sup>ds</sup> pps. the  
journal of the House of Burgesses which began to  
sit on the ninth day of May 1722, with a duplicate  
of all the Acts made by them during their session:  
with an account of his Majesties revenue, of 20 p  
sh<sup>ts</sup> ending the last half year. whereby your  
Lordships will observe how large a balance  
there remains for defraying the necessary charge  
of the Government.

I ask your Lordships pardon for the  
length of this trouble, it is intended one-  
ly to give your Lordships such lights as  
I thought necessary from the duty of my  
office. I shall begg your attention to one  
paragraph more which is to acquaint your  
Lordships that the colony is at present  
in perfect tranquility, and that it shall  
be my constant Endeavours to preserve it  
in that happy condition whereby I hope  
to merit your Lordships favour, and the  
Honour of subscribing my self your Lordships  
[most]



most Obedt. and most humble

Servt

Hugh Drysdale

W<sup>mo</sup> Burgh Decr

the 20<sup>th</sup> 1722

Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Mr Drio. <sup>(p. 168.)</sup>

dale / Lint: Govt of Virginia dated at / Wil

Hamoburg Decr 20<sup>th</sup> 1722 / Recd Feby 15<sup>th</sup> 1723 /

Read June 10 : 1722. / 2 : 51. / 1



N<sup>o</sup> 3

Reasons humbly offered for the better<sup>(p. 72)</sup>  
securing the Frontiers of Virginia by ex-  
empting the Inhabitants of the two late  
Erected Countys from the purchase  
of Rights and payment of Rents

The progress of the French Settlements on the  
River Mississippi, and the uninterrupted communica-  
tion they have from thence to Canada by means of  
the Lakes, and the several great Rivers which flow  
into them have for divers years justly alarmed the  
people of the British plantations who cannot but see  
with terror their Settlements like to be encompassed  
by a Nation no less their Rivals in Trade than En-  
emies to their Religion. Many Representations have been  
made to the Court of Great Britain, showing the dan-  
ger which the British Subjects on the Continent of  
America have reason to apprehend from such a  
Neighbourhood, and divers Schemes have been pro-  
posed & attempted to check the growing power of  
the French in these parts, such were the Expedition  
to the Canada in the Year 1711. and the several  
Armaments made by the Northern Colonys against  
Montreal the precedent Years: undertaken not so  
much with a design to Conquer that great Terri-  
tory which the French possess on the River St  
Lawrence | for such an ungrateful Soil would have



provid a small recompence for the charge of the acquisition) as to secure the British Plantations already seated from the future Invasions of that Nation whenever their power should inspire them with the inclination of changing their own Soil for a better. But after all these projects had failed, and that instead of driving the French out of North America, that Nation were become more formidable by the Direction of their Mississippi Company, and the great privileges and Immunities granted thereto, and when the Peace between the two Nations had left the French to pursue their designs in America and the British Subjects no hopes of obstructing them by the assistance of a force from their Mother Country, they then thought it high time to apply their thoughts to guard against the future approaches of a danger which they were unable to prevent in its beginning.

Upon a strict Survey of the Situation of the Colony of Virginia, made by Col<sup>o</sup>: Spotswood the late Lieut Governor, it was found that the great Chain of Mountains which runs almost from the Bay of Appalachee to the Borders of New England, <sup>the Appalaches</sup> were in that part of them which Extends along the Frontiers of Virginia, only passable in two places, and these about a hundred miles distant



from one another; so that if these passes could be secured by Forts and Garrisons, that Colony and even a great part of the / Neighbouring provinces <sup>(p. 170)</sup> of Maryland and North Carolina would be covered, and in no danger from any Incursions of the French or their Indians tho: they should become powerful on the Lakes which by not very remote from those Mountains.

This project for securing the Frontiers, being communicated to the General Assembly of Virginia in the Year 1720, they very readily applied themselves to find out the best means in their power to put it in execution; And judging that the Encouraging the Inhabitants to extend their Settlements to those two passes would be the most probable way of securing that Barrier which Nature had provided for them, they accordingly passed an Act Erecting two new Bountys, the one on Rappahannock River leading to the Northern pass, and the other Roanoke including the Southern pass. And as an Encouragement to such as should Adventure to fix themselves in these new Territories, they Exempted the Inhabitants thereof from the payment of all publick Taxes for the space of ten Years; Appropriated money for Building them Churches and Courthouses, and supplied them with Arms



and Ammunition at the publick Charge. And because the Ability of the Country did not permit to afford greater Encouragements, they humbly petitioned his Majesty to extend his Royal County so far as to remitt for ten years the Quit Rents of all the Lands in those new Countys, and to exempt those who should take up the same, from the payment of the five shillings which by the Orders of that Government is required for the Right to take up every fifty Acres of Land. And lastly they humbly besought his Majesty to defray out of his Revenue of Quit Rents the Expence of erecting the forts on those passes, and to send over two Independent Companies in his Majestys pay to serve as Garisons therein.

Such was the Confidence the people had of Obtaining his Majestys favour in relation to the Rights and Quit Rents of those Lands, that many considerable Tracts of Land have been already patented, and much more Entered for in those new Countys, which must otherwise have lain many years neglected because of their remoteness from the conveniences of Water Carriage, and the great quantity of Mountainous, Rocky and barren Ground, which are of no other use than to afford a larger Range for the stocks of Cattel of such as possess the more fertile parts thereof. But in as much as his Majestys



pleasure has not been yet signify'd on any part of the Assemblys Petition, and that the time draw nigh when the payment both of the Rights and Quitt rents must be demanded in case his Majesty shal not be induced to remit the same, those who have taken up the said Lands are become greatly discouraged, and such as were preparing to enter into the same design, seem now Resolved not to Adventure untill they know what they have to expect; It being plainly declared by the Patentees, that they will surrender their <sup>[p. 103]</sup> Patents if they are disappointed of the Encouragements they hoped for; whereby this prudent design is like to prove abortive.

To prevent therefore a disappointment so fatal to this Colony, and that his Majesty may be the more readily induced to encourage this new Settlement by the Exemptions petitioned for, It is fitt to state the real value of what his Majesty is like to part with by this concession; and if it doth evidently appear that at the expiration of the ten Years Exemption the Kings Revenue will be reimbursed with a great advance, It is humbly hoped his Majesty always indulgent to his people, will be graciously pleased to part with his present Interest in consideration of that future benefit which



will accrue to his Revenue by the Cultivation of so large a Tract of Land, as well as by the future peace and security of a Country which bears so large a share in the Trade, & Commerce of Great Britain. -

To begin then with the five shillings payable for the Right to take up every fifty acres of the Kings Land. It is to be noted, that no man is obliged to this payment who can obtain a Right for Importation, which any one coming into the Country either as a Tenant or otherwise will easily part with for a trifle. The only thing which makes the Rights purchased of the Government here more desirable than the other is, that people know at all times how to come readily by them, whilst the difficulty and trouble of proving the other kind of Rights at the County Courts, makes them less sought after; but it is very certain, that whoever would apply himself to that kind of purchase, might at any County Court acquire twenty such Rights for less than the price of two of the Government Rights And as these are to be obtained at so cheap a rate, it is not to be imagined that any considerable part of those Lands will be Entered for by virtue of Rights purchased of the Government. It is further to be Observed that



as many Gentlemen of Estates have taken up  
these new Lands with design to Import at  
their own Expence, Familys of foreign Protest-  
ants and other labouring people from Great  
Britain & Ireland, whose circumstances oblige  
them to seek new Habitations, The Rights for  
their Importation will be obtained for a very  
small matter, and made use of in the Entering  
for new Lands: And this is a method of gaining a  
Title to Land, Established by Charter, and cannot be  
denied. so that in this particular of the Rights,  
his Maj<sup>ty</sup> parts with nothing certain, and perhaps may  
not receive fifty pounds for the Lands in those new  
bountys if the Rights were to be insisted on; And the  
denying that Exemption is only putting the subject  
to some Expence & trouble without any considerable  
benefit to the Crown. It may here be added, that  
as these Government Rights are neither Established  
by any Law, or directed by Instruction, and were  
only introduced for the conveniency of such as were  
minded to take up more Land than they had  
Importation Rights ready to answer, and at a time  
when the publick Revenue was unable to defray  
the charge of the Government — / It is presumed<sup>[sup]</sup>  
the Governor and Council of Virginia would not  
have been blameable had they dispensed with the



payment of those Rights for the publick benefit of the colony at a time when the Established Revenue wanted no such assistance. But as it always will be reckoned sound policy to instill into the people of these remote Dominions a belief that all favours they have to expect do immediately flow from the Crown, it was thought expedient the General Assembly should apply directly to his Majesty, for this favour as well as the others, rather than Grant it here in a manner with which the people would have been less sensible of the Obligation. To conclude as this Exemption from the purchase of Rights consists more in imagination than value, It is humbly hoped his Majesty will be graciously pleased to indulge the people therein, since it may prove so conducive to the accomplishment of a design of Universal benefit to these Plantations.

In the next place, it will be fitt to examine the profit or disadvantage which may accrue to his Majestys Quit Rents by the ten Years Exemption of these two new Countys. And here the Situation of these Countys are first to be considered. Neither of them have any Advantage of Navigable Rivers, whatever Manufactures are produced by the industry of the Inhabitants must <sup>(all)</sup> be lyable to a long, and troublesome Land Carriage before they can arrive at



a place of Sale, or a Port for Exportation; the Land there is in no degree better than that in the other frontier County, and the nearer to the Mountains so much the more barren and unfruitful is the Soil, tho: it must be owned that even in those parts there are many fruitful Valleys sufficient to employ the industry of a great number of Inhabitants; but as these are separated by much larger Tracts of barren and unfruitful Lands, common Experience has shew'd how long a time it will require before the Lands in those new County can be so settled as to become a Defence and Barrier to the rest of the Colony, and nothing less than extraordinary Encouragements and Priviledges will be able to prevail with men to fix their Habitations there, nor with those of better fortunes to lay out their Estates if they are not upon a better footing than in the other parts of the Country. This being the natural Situation of the two Countys now intended to be Established, and it appearing that there are between the nearest Bounds of the said two Countys upwards of four score miles in breadth, and in some places much more in length of Lands yet Unpatented, and of that many thousand of Acres Equally good and much more Convenient than any in those Countys.



It may thence reasonably be concluded, that without more than ordinary Encouragements very little of the Lands there, will be possessed <sup>(p. 77)</sup> in many years to come / As on the other hand; it is visible that very little would remain uninhabited in a short time should the exemptions petitioned for be granted. There are already Countys made up to the foot of the Mountains at the Northern Pass; which will serve to illustrate how much greater progress may reasonably be expected in a few succeeding years. If then the great Quantity of Land Entered for in these new Countys, be compared with the little advance which has been made that way in the other parts of the Country where no Exemption from Quit Rents or Rights is expected, it will be no improbable supposition that the whole Land in those two Countys will be entirely taken up and patented in the ten years time, which at the expiration thereof will bring an augmentation to his Majesty's Revenue of Quit Rents of upwards of one thousand pounds a Year; But if no such privilege be granted to the Lands in those Countys, then it is as natural to believe that people will rather chuse to possess themselves of the Lands in other parts of the Country as long as there are any to be had



convenient, and where there is no such, they will then proceed in the usual manner to pick out the small parcels of good Land leaving ten times as much interjacent barrens, which no man will ever meddle with unless the Country comes to be much better peopled than can with reason be expected for one Age: And by this way of fixing small Plantations at great distance from one another, the Frontiers of this Colony will remain but thinly peopled, and in no condition of defence. But to come to a closer demonstration of the benefits or disadvantages accruing to his Majesty's Revenue by remitting or insisting on the Quit Rents of these new Lands. Let us suppose for example, that the whole Lands included within the Bounds of the new Countys amount to two millions of Acres, and suppose also that of these there are only a tenth part fit for the production of Tobacco or Hemp, which are the two Manufactures that Virginia seems now most bent upon, It is then plain according to the common course of settling Plantations in this Country, that only that part which is profitable is likely to be taken up, nor that neither in a longer time than ten years; but if according to the present humour of the people under the proposed Encouragements, the whole without



regard to the profitable or unprofitable Acres be taken up. It is then very easy to make the Computation that his Majesty will receive in one Year after the Exemption ceases as much Quit Rent as the whole ten Years would amount to had no such Exemption been, besides the increase thereof for every Year afterwards. It may be further urged as a more particular addition to his Majesty's Revenue, that by the securing of the passes, and the strengthening that Barrier which is proposed to be Established by the settling these new Countys, people will be the more readily induced to take up that great Tract <sup>(p. 18)</sup> which now lies waste between the Bounds of these Counties, seeing they will find themselves secured by those Barriers in the quiet possession of their Properties, and the fruits of their Industry, without the danger of foreign Invasion or the frequent Incursions of strange Indians, whose known Rout in all their Invasions of this Colony for many Years past has been through these passes and no other.

These motives 'tis hoped will prevail with his Majesty to part w<sup>th</sup> the prospect of a small present Interest in consideration of the far greater Advantages which will redound thereby to his



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Revenue of Quit Rents, if that can at all be put in the balance with the benefits accruing to this Colony by securing a Lasting Barrier against the Encroachments of a foreign power.

But the increase of his Majesty's Revenue of Quit Rents is not the only advantage the Crown will reap by Encouraging this Project for securing the passes of the Mountains. Daily Experience shows that many Inhabitants of Virginia remove into the Neighbouring Provinces where Lands are to be had at a cheaper rate than here, and where their Labour is of little or no value to Great Britain. In North Carolina the Quit Rents of their Lands are very small; and in Maryland, a person who makes no Tobacco pays no Quit Rents at all, tho' he makes an Equal profit of his Land with those who employ themselves in that Manufacture, (the Quit Rents of that Province having been for some years past exchanged by a Duty granted to the Proprietor on the Exportation of Tobacco) so that many Industrious Inhabitants of this Country are daily tempted away into those Neighbouring Provinces purely on account of these small Advantages they there enjoy in respect to their Quit Rents: But if the Encouragements proposed for these two frontier Counties be once



Established, it will be an effectual means not only of preventing the desertion of the Inhabitants but of drawing great numbers from other provinces to become Inhabitants here whereby the Trade of this Colony will be greatly increased, and consequently the consumption of the British Manufactures with which the Inhabitants of Virginia must always be supplied. And as there is no surer means to encourage the Industry of any people; than the prospect they have of the undisturbed enjoyment of the fruit of their Labours, there is no doubt but the securing the frontiers of Virginia by such a Barrier as is proposed, will greatly encourage the peopling of that Colony, and the improvement of those waste Lands which have hitherto been neglected because of the frequent Incursions of foreign Indians, and the more terrible apprehensions of being at some time or other exposed to the danger of an Invasion from the French: To this may be added the probability of a vast accession of Wealth and Power to the British Empire in America, whenever people can with safety traverse those Mountains in search of Mines, of which there are not wanting very encouraging Indications.

[1793]

/ Since therefore it is evident that the Crown



will be no Loser by granting the Immunities  
petitioned for, and that so many Advantages may  
be gained both to Great Britain, and Virginia  
by the speedy Execution of a project so prudently  
formed; It is humbly hoped his Majesty will be  
graciously pleased to dispatch his Royal Commands  
for remitting the Rights and Quit Rents of the Lands  
in these new Frontier Countys, whereby the people  
may be encouraged to proceed vigorously in their  
settlements there, and that he will also have the  
goodness to grant what hath been further humbly  
desired in relation to Forts and Garrisons so neces-  
sary for the immediate defence of those passes,  
and preventing their being possessed by a for-  
eign Power

Endorsed. Virginia / Reasons for the better<sup>[p. 120]</sup>  
securing / the Frontiers of Virginia by exempting /  
the Inhabitants of the two late erected / Counties  
from the Purchase of Rights & / payment of Quit  
Rents / read w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Orisdale Secy of / 20 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1722 /  
Read Feby 15<sup>th</sup> 1723 / Read 13<sup>th</sup> June 1723 /  
2:53 / 6



[p. 151.]

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Auditor Walpole,  
relating to a Bill Pass'd by the Assembly  
of Virginia in 1720 Entitled An Act  
for the better Discovery & securing His  
Majestys Rent Rents in Virginia.

I must own to you that in reading over  
this Bill; I find several considerable Objections to it,  
and can't see that that very material part of it  
that allows the Rent Rents to be discharged for the  
future in Current Money instead of Sterling has  
any other tendency than to establish for ever a  
considerable loss to the Crown by making an Abate-  
ment of the Rent that has constantly been or ought  
to be paid to His Majesty by Virtue of the Letters  
Patents by which the Lands are held, And this  
must necessarily be the Case whatever Variation  
there be in the Price of Tobacco though it is certain  
that the Proprietors of late Years have been much  
better able, and tis to be suppos'd will always  
be as able to pay the ancient settled Duties as  
they were at the first Institution of them, But  
to consider the Bill more particularly I must ob-  
serve that the Reasons alleg'd in the Preamble of  
it for making this extraordinary alteration under  
colour of a Benefit to the Crown are by no means  
well grounded nor what is propos'd in the Enacting

[p. 151.]



part a Remedy to the pretended mischief in the present Method of paying the Quit Rents.

[connected to "a"]

ditto

By Virtue of the Letters Patents 12<sup>d</sup> Earl. has constantly been paid for 50 Acres of Land to the Crown or by an Indulgence of the Crown 12 Pounds Tobacco. have been accepted in Liew thereof, which is after the Rate of 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li W<sup>t</sup> from whence it follows that if Tobacco is worth above 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li W<sup>t</sup> the Patentees pay their Rents in Money and if under 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li W<sup>t</sup> they pay them in Tobacco so that the Reason for their paying at any time their Rents in Tobacco does not depend upon the Condition of their Patents to pay in Sterling and not Current Money, but upon y<sup>e</sup> Difference of the Price of Tobacco, supposing then that instead of Sterling Money the Patentee be allowed to pay in Curr<sup>t</sup> Money or in Tobacco at the same <sup>(p. 17)</sup> Rate, the Case would be just the same, For if Tobacco is at above 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li W<sup>t</sup> Current Money they would pay in money, and if less they would still pay in Tobacco so that in all Events the Crown is sure of loosing the Difference between Current & Sterling Money. And you are a Judge of the great Loss the Crown would have suffered for these 8 or 10 Years past had this Practice been allow'd while the Price of Tobacco was so high and the Rents were generally paid in Sterling Money, now Tobacco is become cheap, I am

/

ditto



very sensible that the Rents will be chiefly paid  
in it, And that the Crown will be a considerable  
looser to what it has been of late years, Nor do  
I see how the Crown would be less a looser should  
the Paymt<sup>t</sup> be allow'd to be made in Current in-  
stead of Sterling Money, For supposing that to be  
then, As I observed before, if Tobacco sells for less  
than 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li w<sup>t</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> Money, People will still pay <sup>["corrected to li"]</sup>  
in Tobacco, and should it sell for more than 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li  
Curr<sup>t</sup> Money & less than 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li w<sup>t</sup> Sterling, They may <sup>dillo</sup>  
y<sup>t</sup> indeed rather choose to pay in Curr<sup>t</sup> Money, but that <sup>dillo</sup>  
is a loss to the Crown far from being an Advantage  
to it, since if the Crown receiv'd the Tobacco, and  
sold it again it would get that Difference of price  
Tobacco bore / between Current & Sterling Money <sup>[p. 11.]</sup>  
which now the Patentees themselves would have. To  
illustrate this by an Instance suppose the Price of  
Tobacco to be 8<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> 100 w<sup>t</sup> and Tobacco is taken in Paymt<sup>t</sup>  
of Quit Rents at 1<sup>d</sup> p<sup>t</sup> li w<sup>t</sup> then 100 li<sup>t</sup> would pay 8<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> <sup>dillo</sup>  
Sterl. in Quit Rents and consequently the Patentee would  
choose to pay in Tobacco by which means they would  
get, or which is the same thing the Crown would  
lose 4<sup>d</sup> on every 8<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>d</sup>; But supposing now 8<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> is  
due to the Crown for Quit Rents to be paid in Cur-  
rent Money and Tobacco sells as above at 8<sup>d</sup> Sterl  
p<sup>t</sup> 100 w<sup>t</sup> Then as 8<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> Money reckoning the



Exchange but at 15 p<sup>ts</sup> ~~per~~ will make only 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Sterl the Patentee will sell his Tobacco and pay the Crown 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Curr<sup>t</sup> Money. And so the Crown receiving 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Curr<sup>t</sup> Money or which is y<sup>t</sup> same thing 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Sterl instead of 100 w<sup>t</sup> of Tobacco which would have sold for 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Sterl the Crown loses in this case the Difference from 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> which is 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> on every 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> more than in the other case. Nor do I see why the Inability of the Patentee to get Sterl Money to discharge his Quit Rents at present in, should be a motive to the [p. 19.] Crown to accept of Curr<sup>t</sup> Money at such a Discount (as is set forth in the Preamble) instead of Sterl, since the Patentee has still his choice to pay in Tobacco.

I did imagine upon my casting of my eye upon the Preamble where'tis declared that the Paym<sup>t</sup> of the Quit Rents in Sterl Money has been the Occasion of their choosing to give Tobacco, And that the Paym<sup>t</sup> of them in Curr<sup>t</sup> Money will greatly tend to the increase of that Revenue that the Enacting part of the Act would have propos'd the setting aside entirely the Paym<sup>t</sup> of them in Tobacco or upon the Crown's agreeing to accept Curr<sup>t</sup> Money at a certain Rate in Lieu of Sterl, But instead of that the Crown is to be the Loser always, and the Paym<sup>t</sup> in Tobacco which was before only an Indulgence of the Crown, is to be



Enacted into a Law, tho' I must own that in my  
Opinion the Crown should on no Account accept of  
Court Money in Paymt<sup>t</sup> because the uncertainty  
of the Value of it would make it impossible to know  
what is receiv'd or prevent the Crown's being im-  
posed upon either by the Country or the <sup>(p. 190)</sup> Officers  
concern'd in the Receipt; I must confess that some  
Parts in this Bill would if Pass'd into an Act  
prove beneficial to the Crown.

Such as relate to the Appointment of the Places  
& Method in which the Tobacco is to be tender'd &  
receiv'd for Paymt<sup>t</sup> of Quit Rents, as also the Power  
given for Distress & making the Sheriff answerable  
where sufficient Distress may be had for the Paymt<sup>t</sup>  
of the Rents in weighty & good Tobacco, yet I don't  
find these Advantages any ways equivalent to  
the losses the Crown would suffer by other parts of  
the Bill, nor the Penalty of paying double Quit  
Rents for so much of y<sup>e</sup> Lands as Persons shall  
wilfully or knowingly conceal or the Encouragem<sup>t</sup>  
of giving a Moiety of the <sup>?</sup> double Quit Rents to any  
Person not being a Proprietor, who shall discover  
such Proprietor so concealing the true Quantity  
of his Land by any means a sufficient Recompense  
for taking away y<sup>e</sup> Security His Majesty had  
before by Virtue of severall Acts in making the



Land forfeited for the Non-Payment of the Quit  
[p. 191] Rents, especially since of / late great art and  
industry seem to be us'd in taking up Lands  
in such a manner as to avoid the Payments of  
any Quit Rents at all.

[p. 192] Endorsed. Virginia / Copy of SV. Auditor /  
Walpole's Objections ag<sup>t</sup> / An Act pass'd in Vir:  
ginia / in 1720 for discovering / & securing His  
Majesty's / Quit Rents / Recd June 12<sup>th</sup> } 1720 /  
Read 13<sup>th</sup> 0<sup>o</sup> }  
235.



At the Council Chamber: Whitehall

(p. 201.)

the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1722

By a Committee of the Lords of  
His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy  
Council

Upon reading this day at the Committee a Memorial of Peter Schuyler Gent, on behalf of the Colony of Virginia, setting forth his having received from the Governor & Council there a Representation containing reasons to prove the real and great advantage that will accrue to His Majesty in those parts by the Settlement of Two new Frontier Countys lately erected by Act of Assembly there, And praying that their Lordships will be pleased to consider the same together with a Report made by the Board of Trade upon an Address of the Council and Burgesses of Virginia. Relating to this affair which His Majesty was pleased on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 1721, to Refer to this Committee or at least such parts thereof as relates to the temporary remission of the Quit Rents, and purchase of rights:- Their Lordships are thereupon pleased to order that the said Memorial and paper of Reasons together with such part of the said Report as relates to the remitting the Quit



<sup>[p 101]</sup> Rents and purchase of Right (Copys whereof are  
hereunto annexed) Be, and they are hereby Re-  
ferred to the Lords Commissioners of His Majestys  
Treasury to consider the same and Report to  
this Board what they think proper to be done  
therein for His Majestys Service:

Ex<sup>o</sup>

A true Copy  
Ja<sup>o</sup> Vernon

<sup>[p 104]</sup> Endorsed. Virginia / Order of a Committee /  
of Council Dated 22 March / 1722 / referring to  
the / Treasury the Affair of / remitting the Rent  
Rents / and purchasing of Rights / in two new  
Counties / <sup>Rec<sup>d</sup>: 20<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>st</sup></sup> } 1720 / <sup>Read Oct<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup></sup> } 2:38. / 1



At the Council Chamber: Whitehall <sup>[p. 167.]</sup>

the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1725,

Present

Their Excellencies the Lords Justices

in Council

Whereas the Council and Burgesses of the Colony of Virginia have by their Address to His Majesty Represented the Great advantage and Security it would be to that Colony and the rest of His Majestys Dominions on the Continent of America to have the Passes secured on the Great Ridge of Mountains which extend along the back of Virginia and Carolina whereby the incursions of the French and of the Indian Nations in the French Interest would be entirely prevented, and that in order to the securing the same; They have past an Act to Erect Two New Bountys stretching from their outward Settlements so as to take in the Two only Passes yet <sup>[p. 168.]</sup> discovered on the back of Virginia over the said Mountains. And to Encourage the speedy Settlement thereof, They have by the said Act exempted such Persons as shall Inhabit there from all Publick Taxes for Ten Years, and have assigned them Money to Build Churches &c. And as a further inducement to the Settlement thereof, The said Council and Burgesses humbly pray amongst



other things) That His Majesty will be pleased of  
His Royal favour to Remit all Quit Rents of the said  
Two new Countys for Ten Years to Come; and Ex-  
empt the takers up of Land in those Countys from the  
Fine of Five Shillings which all Persons are obliged  
to pay for every Fifty Acres of Land they Enter  
upon in Virginia which address was Referred by  
His Majesty to the Consideration of the Lords Commiss<sup>rs</sup>  
of Trade and was afterwards laid before a Committee  
of the Lords of His Majestys Most Honble Privy Coun-  
cill, and also before the Lords Commissioners of His  
[p. 169.] Majestys Treasury, together with a paper of Reasons  
transmitted from Virginia relating to the said Two  
New Countys being Exempted from the Quit Rents and  
purchase of Rights for Ten Years, for their Lordships to  
consider thereof, and Report their Opinions thereupon -  
which they having accordingly done Their Excellencies  
the Lords Justices in Council, this day took the said  
Reports into Consideration, and finding that it may be  
for the advantage of the Crown and the security of the  
said Colony, to Encourage the Settlement of the said  
Two new Countys called Brunswick & Spotsylvania are  
therefore pleased, (pursuant to what is thereby proposed)  
to Grant a Remission of the Quit Rents & purchase of  
Rights for the Term of Seven Years to be reckoned  
from the first Day of May 1721 / the time the said



two Countys were first laid out) under the following Restrictions: Vint. - That no Person possessed of Lands in any other part of Virginia held by Quit Rent from the Crown be Admitted to take up Lands in those new Countys, / without giving<sup>(p. 270)</sup> Security for continuing the payment of the Quit Rent for the Lands by him, already possessed, notwithstanding his removal to one of these new Countys And that no Person whatsoever, be allowed to take up more than one Thousand Acres in his own or any other Name in Trust for him in either of the said new Countys; And also that the Patentees of Lands in the said new Countys be made lyable to the same restrictions and Limitations in relation to the Cultivating and Seating the same, as are all other the Proprietors of Lands in the other part of His Majestys said Colony of Virginia. And the Governor or Commander in Chief of His Majestys Colony of Virginia for the time being, And all others whom it may concern are to take Notice hereof, and Govern themselves accordingly: -

A true Copy  
Ja: Vernon



Virg<sup>a</sup>. May the 16. 1723 (p. 107)

My Lds

The general Assembly of this Colony, which mett on the 9<sup>th</sup> current, having now under deliberation those affairs of the Govern<sup>t</sup>. which will chiefly deserve your Ld<sup>ships</sup> attention, I am unwilling to spend your time now, with any Relation of Matters of less moment because I hope, some time next month to be able, together with the laws and journals of this session, to transmitt a very full account of the state of the Country during my administration:

But that your Ld<sup>ships</sup> may in the mean time be briefly informed of the principall matters recommended by mee, and now the subject of the Assemblys consultations, I begg leave to refer / your Ld<sup>ships</sup> to the inclosed copy of my speech<sup>(p. 108)</sup>, at the opening this session: and as I hope the Addresses of the Councell & House of Burgesses (copies whereof are also here inclosed) will serve to demonstrate the present Harmony in y<sup>e</sup> Govern<sup>t</sup>. the pleasure I have therein is much the greater, that an opportunity is thereby given mee, of improving this favourable disposition of the people to the advancing his Maj<sup>ties</sup> service, and the true interest of the Colony:

I judge it part of my duty to inform your



Subject of an affair, that is at present the common  
Theme of peoples discourses, and employs their  
thoughts. Well spotted words Iron works; he has  
brought itt to that perfection that he now sells  
by publick auction at Wms: burgh. backs and frames  
for Chymnies, Totts, doggs, frying, stewing, and bak-  
ing pans, some of these Utensils, are sett up at 3<sup>s</sup>  
[p. 109.] per pound. / others at 3<sup>s</sup> per pound, and so rise  
in their price as peoples inclinations or wants en-  
courage them to bidd:

I must observe to your L<sup>ds</sup> that upon the  
resignation of Mr Barter, I have with the advice  
of the Council, appointed Mr Peter Schuy. Sol-  
licitor of the affairs of this Colony, to whom I in-  
treat your L<sup>ds</sup> favour and countenance, in  
such matters as he shal have occasion to nego-  
ciate at your L<sup>ds</sup> board.

I am with great deference and  
respect Your L<sup>ds</sup> most Obedt  
humble servt

Hugh Drysdale

[p. 110.] Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Mr Drysdale  
Lieut Govt / of Virginia, Dated / 16<sup>th</sup> of May 1723.  
Recd the 25<sup>th</sup> July / 1723. / 2:59. / 2  
Read Nov. 12:



(p. 103)

The Account of His Majesties Revenue of Quit Rents &c  
from the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 Aris-  
ing within the Colony of Virginia —

To part of the Bal <sup>ce</sup> of the last Acct. ended the 25 <sup>th</sup> of April 1722 Still remaining due from the Ex <sup>r</sup> . of the late Rec <sup>d</sup> . Gen <sup>l</sup> & to be paid into the Exchequer pursuant to His Majesties Warrant	£ 349 1	7	7 1/2
The Rec <sup>d</sup> . General doth charge himself w <sup>th</sup> the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.			
To the remaining part of the Balance of the last Account	£ 321	13	9 3/4
To part of the Solicitors additional salary allowed in the last Account of His Majesties Revenue of Quit Rents detained by the Receiver General the 3 <sup>d</sup> Solicitor dying in England the 25 <sup>th</sup> of February before the passing that Account	17	5	3
To sundry old Arrears collected by the Receiver General	5	5	—
To the Quit Rents of the Northern Neck for the Year 1722	13	13	4
To the Rec <sup>d</sup> of Compositions for Escheated Lands	10	10	9 1/4

Quit Rents for the Year 1722

Counties Names	No of acres	Bid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh. 6d 10 p <sup>er</sup>	Sh. 6d 10 p <sup>er</sup>		£	s	d
Accomack	229510	...	55080	3/- p <sup>er</sup>	£ 12	12	5 1/2
Anne Arundel	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charles City	34246	...	...	...	34	4	11
Ditto	48096	...	11540	5/1 p <sup>er</sup>	29	6	9
Elizabeth City	28555	...	...	...	28	11	14
Ditto	3780	...	908	7/- p <sup>er</sup>	3	3	6 1/2
Essex	129149	...	...	...	129	2	11 1/2
Ditto	35467	...	8512	5/5 p <sup>er</sup>	35	16	3
Gloucester	158466	...	...	...	158	9	4
Ditto	300	...	125	9/- p <sup>er</sup>	...	11	6 1/2
Hannover	134730	...	...	...	154	15	—
Ditto	4302	...	1009	8/6 p <sup>er</sup>	4	8	3 1/2
Henrico	87009	...	...	...	87	—	9 1/2
Ditto	189812	45555	...	4/0 p <sup>er</sup>	96	16	1
James City	70714	...	...	...	80	14	3 1/2
Ditto	1120	...	269	8/5 p <sup>er</sup>	1	3	3 1/2
Jake Wright	18762	...	...	...	18	15	0
Ditto	146989	42477	...	4/9 p <sup>er</sup>	100	17	7 1/2
King William	146102	...	...	...	176	2	8
Ditto	3511	...	842	8/6 p <sup>er</sup>	3	11	6 1/2
King & Queen	205691	...	...	...	205	13	10
Ditto	4878	...	1170	8/9 p <sup>er</sup>	5	2	4 1/2
Middlesex	70700	...	...	...	70	14	—
Ditto	1205	...	296	9/- p <sup>er</sup>	1	6	7 1/2
Nancemond	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Norfolk	4092	...	...	...	4	1	10



Counties Names	N <sup>o</sup> of acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh. 5d 1/4 p lb	Sh. 5d 10 p lb				
Norfolk	116374	27977		4/1 p lb	55.	19.	1
Northampton	4950				4.	19.	-
Ditto	100145		24034	4/1 p lb	49.	1.	4 1/2
New Kent	35632				55.	12.	8
Ditto	1150		276	5/4 p lb	1.	3.	-
Prince George	9236				9.	4.	8 1/2
Ditto	146211	35090		4/4 p lb	76.	-	6 1/2
Princess Anne	790					15.	10 1/2
Ditto	116496	27959		4/3 p lb	59.	5.	3
Spotsylvania							
Surry	17674				17.	13.	5 1/2
Ditto	172114	41307		5/1 p lb	104.	19.	9 1/2
Warwick	39231				39.	4.	7 1/2
York	69095				69.	1.	10 1/2
					2086.	6.	11 1/2
					9939.	2.	5 1/2

[p 204]

Arrears of Quit Rents for the Year 1721 paid in the year 1722

Counties Names	N <sup>o</sup> of acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at	Paid in Money		
		Sh. 5d 1/4 p lb	Sh. 5d 10 p lb				
Charles City	700				14.	-	
Hannover	200		48	5/6 p lb	4.	- 1/2	
James City	1450				1.	9.	-
Ditto p in P. George	250		60	4/4.	2.	7	
Ditto p in Surry	130	31		3/1.	1.	7	
Ile Wight	2060	494		4/9.	1.	3.	5 1/2
D. paid in Ch <sup>a</sup> City	825		198	3/1.	10.	- 1/2	
D. p in Prince Geo.	100	24		4/4.	1.	- 1/2	
Nancemore p in Prince George	110				2.	2 1/2	
D. p in Ile Wight	330	84		4/9.	3.	11 1/2	
Norfolk	280	67		4/1.	2.	8	
Northampton	1190		285	4/1.	11.	7 1/2	
New Kent p in Henrico	200	48		4/3.	2.	2 1/2	
Prince George	583	139		4/4.	6.	- 1/2	
Surry p in P. George	157				3.	1 1/2	
Ditto p in Ditto	485	116		4/4.	3.	- 1/2	
D. p in Ile Wight	200	48		4/9.	2.	3 1/2	
Ditto	290	70		5/1.	3.	6 1/2	6 5 1/2

So that the whole Receipt Amounts to. £ 9945. 11. - 1/2



The Receiver General doth Discharge himself By the payment of the following sums out of the Quit Rents		
By His Majesties Warrant to John Lord Belhaven Dated at Kensington 25 <sup>th</sup> September 1721 Directed to James Roscow Esq. late Receiver General & discharged by the Executors of the said Roscow. . . . .	£ 5496	7 7½
By His Majesties Warrant to Henry Rainsford Esq. for his Annuity Ending the 24 <sup>th</sup> March 1722/3 . . .	500	— —
By a Warrant to the Commissary for a Years Salary ending this day . . . . .	100	— —
By a Warrant to the Attorney General for a Years Salary ending this day . . . . .	60	— —
By an Error in the last Acct of Quit Rents to the disadvantage of the Receiver General . . .	4	2 10½
By Salary to the Sheriffs for collecting a 10 p cent on £ 1596. 2. 2	159	12 2½
By Ditto to Ditto . . . . . a 14 p cent on £ 496. 2. 2	69	10 7¼
By a further allowance of 6 p cent to the Sheriff of Surrey County on the Sum of £ 105. 3. 32 pursuant to Or. der of Government . . . . .	6	6 2½
By an allowance to the Receiver General of 5½ p cent on £ 1271. 0. 9¼ to Enable him to remitt the same to London by Bills of Exchange at the Common allowance of 15 p cent . . . . .	71	9 10½
By allowance to the Auditor 2 p cent on £ 1586. 1. 6½ . .	94	6 —½
By allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum . .	94	6 —½
So that the sum disbursed Amounts to	£ 6651	11 6
And there will remain due to Bath this Acct.	3294	9 6½
	£ 9945	11 —½

John Hrymes Rec. Genl



(p. 206.)

May 30<sup>th</sup> 1723

I have Examined the within Account of His Majesties Revenue Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 And Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Gynnes Esq<sup>r</sup> Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Nine thousand nine hundred forty five Pounds eleven shillings one half penny and the Discharge to six thousand six hundred fifty one Pounds one shilling six pence, both truly stated. So that there is due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Account Three thousand two hundred ninety four Pounds nine shillings six pence half penny Sterling.

Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

May 30. 1723

This Account Compared and Examined by Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council & Sworn to by John Gynnes Esq<sup>r</sup> Rec<sup>r</sup>. General

[anti] Hugh Drysdale

Endorsed Virginia Rec<sup>t</sup> of the Revenue of Quit Rents  
from 25 April 1722 to 25 April 1723 rec<sup>d</sup> with SV Drysdale's  
letter of 29 June 1723 Rec<sup>d</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> } 2.45 / 8  
Rec<sup>d</sup>

Also Endorsed. N<sup>o</sup> 5 Rec<sup>t</sup> of the Quit Rents



The Account of His Majesties Revenue of 2/- p hoghead &c Rising <sup>(p 207)</sup>

within this Colony of Virginia from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1722 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723.

The Receiver General doth charge himself  
w<sup>th</sup> the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the Last Account . . . . .	£ 4002.	5.	11
The Account of the upper District of James River . . . . .	125.	5.	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Account of the Lower District of James River . . . . .	76.	5.	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Account of the District of York River . . . . .	177.	19.	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Account of the District of Rappahanock River . . . . .	145.	9.	5
The Account of the District of South Potomack . . . . .	15.	5.	5
The Account of the Port of Accomack . . . . .	61.	10.	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Account of Sundry Rights of Land Sold . . . . .	219.	2.	10
The Account of Fines and Forfeitures . . . . .	56.	15.	5
To part of the Solicitors Salary allowed in the Acc <sup>t</sup> of His Majesties Revenue of 2/- p hoghead &c to the 25 <sup>th</sup> of April 1722 detained by the Receiver General, the S <sup>d</sup> Solicitor dying in England the 25 <sup>th</sup> of Feb- ruary before the passing that Account . . . . .	15.	15.	1

£ 4595. 14. 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
By the payment of the following Sums.

By half a Years Salary to the Governor . . . . .	£ 1000.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Council . . . . .	175.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer . . . . .	100.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations . . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia . . . . .	50.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Attorney General . . . . .	20.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council . . . . .	50.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the several Batterys & James Town . . . . .	25.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Armourer . . . . .	6.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending one General Court . . . . .	4.	—	—
By a Warrant for contingent Charges . . . . .	247.	4.	5
By a Warrant for Repairs done to the Governors House . . . . .	111.	—	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>



By a Warrant to John Lister for Expenses in Erecting Batterys for defence of the Rivers. . . . .	169.	7.	6
By Balance of Pyratial Effects in the last Acct of 2/ p hoghead paid to Capt Luke Knott Pursuant to His Majesties Warrant dated at Kensington Aug <sup>r</sup> . 7 <sup>th</sup> . 1722. . . . .	205.	4.	-
By Allowance to the Auditor 25 p <sup>ts</sup> on £875 .. 15. 7 1/2 ..	43.	15.	9 1/4
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum ..	43.	15.	9 1/4
So that the Sum Disbursd Amounts to . . . . £	2300.	7.	5
And there will remain Due to Bal <sup>ce</sup> this Recomp <sup>t</sup>	2592.	6.	11 3/4
	£ 4892.	14.	7 3/4

John Grymes Rec<sup>d</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>.

(p. 308) May 30<sup>th</sup>. 1723

I have Examined the within Account of His Majesties Revenue Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1722 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Grymes Esq<sup>r</sup>. Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Four thousand eight hundred ninety three Pounds fourteen Shillings seven pence three farthings. And the Discharge to two thousand three hundred Pounds seven shillings eight pence both truly Stated So that there remains due to His Majesties Revenue for Balance of this Recomp<sup>t</sup> Two thousand five hundred ninety three Pounds six shillings eleven pence three farthings Sterling.

Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison D<sup>y</sup>. Aud<sup>r</sup>.

May 30<sup>th</sup>. 1723

The within Account Compared and Examined by Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Grymes Esq<sup>r</sup>. Receiver General

[auto] Hugh Drysdale

(p. 309) Endorsed. Virginia / Acct of the Revenue / of 2/<sup>d</sup> p<sup>ts</sup> h<sup>o</sup>d on Tobacco / from 25 Octo<sup>r</sup> 1722 / to 25 April 1723 / rec<sup>d</sup> with / M<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's / Letter of 29 June / 1723. / Rec<sup>d</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> } 1723 / 2. 46. / 9  
Also Endorsed. No 6 / Acct of the 2/<sup>d</sup> p<sup>ts</sup> h<sup>o</sup>d &c



[p. 37]

The Account of His Majesties Revenue of 2<sup>d</sup> phogs  
head &c arising within this Colony of Virginia  
from y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> April 1722 to y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> October 1722

The Receiver General doth charge himself  
with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the Last Account . . . . .	£	2593.	6.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
The Recot of the Upper District of James River . . . . .		395.	7.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
The Recot of the Lower District of James River . . . . .		251.	5.	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
The Recot of the District of York River . . . . .		1172.	3.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
The Recot of the District of Rappahannock River . . . . .		345.	15.	1
The Recot of the District of South Potomack . . . . .		386.	10.	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
The Recot of the Port of Accomack . . . . .				
The Recot of sundry Rights of Land sold . . . . .		131.	17.	3
	£	5999.	10.	5 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
By the payment of the following Sums.

By half a Years Salary to the Governor . . . . .	£	1000.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Council . . . . .		175.	--	--
By a Warrant to y <sup>e</sup> Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer . . . . .		100.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations . . . . .		50.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia . . . . .		50.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Attorney General . . . . .		20.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council . . . . .		50.	--	--
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the several Battarps & Jam <sup>n</sup> Town . . . . .		25.	--	--
By half a Years Salary to the Armourer . . . . .		6.	--	--
By a Warrant to Ministers attending one Bench Court & Assembly . . . . .		18.	--	--
By a Warrant for Repairs done to the Governors house . . . . .		51.	7.	10
By a Warrant for contingent Charges . . . . .		222.	19.	4
By allowance to the Auditor at 5 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £3406. 3. 9 . . . . .		170.	6.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
By allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum . . . . .		170.	6.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
So that the Sum Disbursed amounts to . . . . .	£	2108.	19.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
And there will remain due to Ball this Recot . . . . .		3890.	11.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	£	5999.	10.	5 $\frac{1}{4}$

John Brymes Rec<sup>d</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>



[p. 113]  
Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1723

I have Examined the within Receipt of His Majesties Revenue, Commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1723, and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Gnymes Esq<sup>r</sup> Receiver General, and find the Charge thereof amount<sup>d</sup> to Five thousand nine hundred ninety nine Pounds, ten shillings eight pence three farthings. And the Discharge to Two thousand one hundred eight Pounds Nineteen shillings six pence half penny both duly stated. So that there remains due to His Majesties Revenue for Balance of this Receipt Three thousand eight hundred ninety Pounds Eleven shillings two pence farthing Sterling

Wm<sup>th</sup> Harrison Dy Aud<sup>r</sup>

Nov<sup>r</sup> 5. 1723

The within Receipt Compared & Examined by Wm<sup>th</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council & sworn to by John Gnymes Esq<sup>r</sup> Rec<sup>r</sup> General.

Hugh Drysdale

[p. 114]  
Ordered. Virginia / Rec<sup>d</sup> of the 2<sup>th</sup> ph<sup>th</sup> & / in Virginia /  
October 25<sup>th</sup> 1723 / rec<sup>d</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's / Letter of 14<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1724.  
1724. / Rec<sup>d</sup> March 31<sup>st</sup>. } 1724. / 2. 68. / 5  
Rec<sup>d</sup> .



3

The Account of His Majesties Revenue of 2/- per Hogshead &c. Aris: <sup>(per)</sup>  
 ing within this Colony of Virginia from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1723 to  
 the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the Revenue as follows.			
To Ballance of the Last Acct. ....	£ 590.	4.	2½
The Acct of the Upper District of James River .....			
The Acct of the Lower District of James River .....	87.	15.	¼
The Acct of the District of York River .....	448.	5.	¾
The Acct of the District of Rappahannock River .....	177.	5.	2½
The Acct of the District of South Potomack .....	86.	5.	10¼
The Acct of the Port of Accomack .....	39.	15.	9¼
The Acct of Sundry Rights of Land Sold .....	264.	15.	0
The Acct of Fines and Forfeitures .....	15.	2.	3½
	£ 5308.	6.	2½
The Receiver General doth Discharge himself By the payment of the following Sums.			
By half a Years Salary to the Governor .....	£ 1000.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Council .....	175.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Term .....	100.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations .....	50.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia .....	50.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Attorney General .....	20.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council .....	50.	—	—
By a Warrt to the Gunners of the several Battens & James Town .....	25.	—	—
By half a Years Salary to the Armourer .....	6.	—	—
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending one General Court .....	6.	—	—
By a Warrant for repairs done to the Governors house .....	51.	1.	7½
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges .....	69.	19.	10¼
By allowance to the Auditor & s <sup>pt</sup> on £ 1417. 15 .....	70.	17.	9
By allowance to the Rec <sup>t</sup> General on the same Sum .....	70.	17.	9
So that the Sum Disburst Amounts to	£ 1724.	17.	—½
And there will remain due to Ballance this Acct	5583.	9.	1¾
	£ 5508.	6.	2½

John Grymes Rec<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>



(p. 202)

May 6. 1724

I have examined the within Acc<sup>t</sup> of His Majesties Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1723 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724 and have compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Grymes Esq. Red. General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Five thousand three hundred eight Pounds six shillings two pence farthing, and the Discharge to One thousand seven hundred twenty four Pounds seventeen shillings half penny both truly Stated. So that there is due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Acc<sup>t</sup>. Three thousand five hundred eighty three pounds nine shillings one penny three farthings Sterling.

Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq. Aud<sup>r</sup>

May 6. 1724.

The within Acc<sup>t</sup> compared and examined by Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Grymes Esq. Red. Gen<sup>l</sup>.

[auto] Hugh Drysdale



The Rec<sup>d</sup> of His Majesties Revenue of Quit Rents &c from the <sup>(part)</sup>  
 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724. Arising within this Colony of Virginia

The Rec<sup>d</sup>. General doth charge himself  
 with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows

To Ballance of the Last Acc <sup>t</sup> . . . . .	£ 294	9	62
To Sundry Old Arrears collected by the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General . . . . .	9	—	—
To the Quit Rents of the Northern Neck for the year 1723 . . . . .	6	12	4
To the Acc <sup>t</sup> of Compositions for Uncheated Lands . . . . .	7	—	4

Quit Rents for the Year 1723

Counties Names	N <sup>o</sup> of Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at 6 <sup>d</sup>	Paid in Money		
		th. sh. p <sup>d</sup>	th. sh. p <sup>d</sup>				
Accomack . . . . .	1125				£ 1	2	6
Ditto . . . . .	225955		53749	5/-	154	7	3
Princenwick . . . . .							
Charles City . . . . .	22920				22	16	5
Ditto . . . . .	59256		14216	5/-	55	10	9
Elizabeth City . . . . .	29191				29	3	10
Ditto . . . . .	2635		632	9/4	2	12	8
Essex . . . . .	152913				152	18	3
Ditto . . . . .	15473		3713	9/1	16	17	4
Gloucester . . . . .	161740				161	14	10
Hannover . . . . .	167499				167	9	9
Ditto . . . . .	6529		1566	10/-	7	16	7
Henrico . . . . .	46764				46	15	3
Ditto . . . . .	217669	52240		5/-	150	12	—
James City . . . . .	51489				81	9	9
Lehigh . . . . .	11772				11	15	5
Ditto . . . . .	190122	45629		5/-	114	1	5
King William . . . . .	181800				181	16	—
Ditto . . . . .	2029		487	10/-	4	8	5
King & Queen . . . . .	212237				212	4	9
Ditto . . . . .	350		94	10/-	8	3	5
Midsex . . . . .	71715				71	14	3
Ditto . . . . .	380		109	10/-	13	11	—
Stafford . . . . .	425				8	6	—
Ditto . . . . .	127489	30592		5/-	76	9	7
Norfolk . . . . .							
Northampton . . . . .	4650				4	13	—
Ditto . . . . .	101050		24252	5/-	60	12	7
New Kent . . . . .	86105				86	2	1
Ditto . . . . .	350		94	8/4	7	—	—
Prince George . . . . .	6158				6	3	2
Ditto . . . . .	152483	36595		5/-	91	9	9
Princess Anne . . . . .	300				6	—	—
Ditto . . . . .	118219	28572		4/6	63	16	8



Counties Names	N <sup>o</sup> of Acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at 10 <sup>c</sup>	Paid in money					
		Sh. 3s 14p Ct	Sh. 3s 10p Ct							
Spotsylvania	45444	...	...	...	45.	8.	10 $\frac{3}{4}$			
Surry	3715	...	...	...	...	14.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Ditto	209114	50187	...	5/-	125.	9.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Warwick	38403	...	...	...	35.	8.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$			
Hork	69128	...	...	...	69.	2.	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	226.	2.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
					£ 557.			5.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	

(page) Arrears of Quit Rents for the Year 1722 paid in the Year 1723

Counties Names	N <sup>o</sup> of acres	Paid in Tobacco		Sold at 10 <sup>c</sup>	Paid in money					
		Sh. 3s 14p Ct	Sh. 3s 10p Ct							
Paid in Charles City	400	...	...	...	£...	8.	—			
Henrico	215	...	31	...	...	...	...			
James City	600	...	144	...	...	...	...			
New Kent	100	...	24	5/-	1.	5.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Prince George	589	...	141	...	...	...	...			
Surry	600	...	144	...	...	...	...			
Paid in Gloucester	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
King William	600	...	...	...	...	12.	—			
King City	214	...	...	...	...	4.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Paid in Lancaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
James City	50	...	...	...	...	1.	—			
New Kent	100	...	...	...	...	2.	—			
Paid in Henrico	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
New Kent	200	45	155	5/-	...	7.	9			
Prince George	447	107	...	...	...	...	...			
Paid in Isle Wight	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Prince George	142	34	...	5/-	...	1.	8 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Surry	120	31	...	5/-	...	1.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Ditto	340	...	...	...	...	6.	10			
Paid in Prince Geo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
James City	700	...	...	...	...	14.	—			
Isle Wight	200	...	45	5/-	...	10.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Surry	686	...	164	...	...	...	...			
Paid in King & Queen	600	...	...	...	...	12.	—			
Paid in Surry	2575	570	...	5/-	...	8.	6			
Paid in James City	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
New Kent	200	...	...	...	...	4.	—			
Isle Wight	120	...	...	...	...	2.	5			
Paid in Spotsylvania	43331	...	...	...	43.	6.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Ditto for 1721	43331	...	...	...	43.	6.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	£ 92.	15.	— $\frac{1}{2}$

So that the whole Receipt Amounts to ... £ 5672. —. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$



The Rect. General doth Discharge himself				1727
By the payment of the following Sums Out of the Quit Rents				
By His Majesties Warrant to Henry Rainford for his Annuity ending the 24 <sup>th</sup> of March 1727/4 . . . . .	£ 500	-	-	
By His Majesties Warrant to the Ex <sup>r</sup> of the Late Rect. General . . . . .	90	5	1 1/2	
By two Warrts to the Commissary for a Years Salary ending this day . . . . .	100	-	-	
By two Warrts to the Attorney Gen <sup>l</sup> for a Years Salary ending this day . . . . .	60	-	-	
By Salary to the Collectors 210 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £ 1750 . s. 2 1/4 . . . . .	175	-	9 3/4	
By Ditto to Ditto . . . . . 214 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £ 604 . s. 11 1/2 . . . . .	54	12	5 1/4	
By a further allowance of 6 p <sup>er</sup> cent to the Sheriffs of Surry & Sole Wight Countys on the Sum of £ 242 . 2 . 6 1/2 p <sup>er</sup> cent . . . . .	14	9	4	
By an allowance to the Rect. General of 5 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £ 1325 . s. - 1/4 to enable him to remit the same to London by Bills of Exchange at the common allowance of 15 p <sup>er</sup> cent . . . . .	74	11	- 3/4	
By allowance to the Auditor 25 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £ 2105 . s. 3 1/4 . . . . .	105	5	5	
By allowance to the Rect. General on the same Sum . . . . .	105	5	5	
So that the Sum Disbursed Amounts to				1309 5 7 1/4
And there will remain due to Balance this Act				4362 16 9 1/2
				£ 5672 - 14 3/4

John Brynes Rect. Gen<sup>l</sup>



(p. 100) May 6. 1724

I have Examined the within Accot of His Majesties Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1723 and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724 and compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Brynes Esq: Rec: General, and find the Charge thereof amounting to five thousand and six hundred seventy two Pounds four pence three farthings, and the Discharge to One thousand three hundred nine Pounds three shillings sevenpence farthing both truly stated. so that there is due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Accot four thousand three hundred sixty two Pounds sixteen shillings nine pence Sterling.

Nath<sup>l</sup>. Harrison Esq: Aud:

May 6. 1724

The within Accot compared and Examined by Nathaniel Harrison Esq: Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Brynes Esq: Rec: Genl:

Hugh Drysdale

(p. 101) Endorsed. Virginia / <sup>of 25<sup>th</sup> April</sup> Accot of the Revenue from / 25<sup>th</sup>  
Oct: 1723 to the 25<sup>th</sup> April / 1724. / recd with Maj: Drysdale's /  
Letter of y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> July 1724 / Recd Sep: 4<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> } 1724 / 2:50.  
Read

Also Endorsed. Virginia / Recd of the Revenues / April 1724



The Account of His Majesties Revenue of 2/- per hoghead <sup>(p. 117)</sup>  
Rising within this Colony of Virginia from 4<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724 to  
4<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1724.

The Receiver General doth Charge himself  
w<sup>th</sup> the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the last Account .....	£	3575.	9.	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Recot of the Upper District of James River .....		492.	10	3
The Recot of the Lower District of James River .....		216.	-	2
The Recot of the District of York River .....		407.	16	10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Recot of the District of Rappahannock River .....		425.	15.	- 1/4
The Recot of the District of South Potomack .....		265.	16	7
The Recot of the Port of Accomack .....				
The Recot of Sundry Rights of Land Sold .....		569.	15	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Recot of Fines and Forfeitures .....				
	£	5759.	1.	7

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
By the payment of the following Sums.

By half a Years Salary to the Governor .....	£	1000.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Council .....		175.	-	-
By a Warrt to the Judges & other officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer .....		100.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations .....		50.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia .....		50.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Attorney General .....		20.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council .....		50.	-	-
By a Warrt to the Gunners of the several Battays & James Town .....		25.	-	-
By half a Years Salary to the Remourer .....		6.	-	-
By a Warrt to the Ministers attending one General Court .....		6.	-	-
By a Warrt for Repairs done to the Governors House .....		51.	16	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
By a Warrt for Contingent Charges .....		42.	4.	-
By allowance to the Auditor 25 p <sup>ct</sup> on £2475. 12. 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> .....		105.	15.	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
By allowance to the Receiver General on the same sum .....		105.	15.	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
So that the Sum Disburst Amounts to .....	£	1793.	12.	- 1/4
And there will remain due to Ballance this Recot .....		3965.	9.	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
	£	5759.	1.	7

John Crummes Rec<sup>d</sup>: Esq<sup>t</sup>



[part] Nov<sup>r</sup> 5: 1724

I have Examined the within Account of His Majesties Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724 and Ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1724 and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Grymes Esq: Receiver General and find the Charge thereof Amounting to Five thousand seven hundred fifty nine pounds one shilling seven pence. And the Discharge to One thousand seven hundred ninety three pounds twelve shillings one farthing both truly stated. So that there is due to His Majesties Revenue for Ballance of this Acc<sup>t</sup> Three thousand nine hundred sixty five pounds nine shillings six pence three farthings Sterling  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison D<sup>y</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup>

Nov<sup>r</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1724.

The within Account Compared & Examined by Nathaniel Harrison Esq: Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Grymes Esq: Rec<sup>r</sup> General

Hugh Drysdale

[part] Endorsed. Virginia / Rec<sup>d</sup> of his Majesties / revenue of 2 s p / Hoghead from the / 25<sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1724 / to the 25<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup>. 1724 / referred to in Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's / Letter of 29<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1724. / Rec<sup>d</sup> the 14<sup>th</sup> April } 1725. / Q: 84 / 7



An Acct of the Quantity of Tobacco planted and tended in  
Virginia in the Year 1724 pursuant to the Act of Assembly for  
the better & more effectual improving of Staple of Tobacco.

County	Number of Tithables	Tithables employed in Tobacco	Payroll to tend 3000 plants	Number of Plants tended	Quality of the Tobacco	Value of the Tobacco at 100 <sup>th</sup> of the price of the plants	Value of the Tobacco at 100 <sup>th</sup> of the price of the plants
Henrico...	2224	1911	426	9986020	Prunoco	1858	...
Prince George	1562	1356	242	6409012	Prunoco	1335	...
Curry...	1924	1790	245	6340176	Ditto	1520	...
Isle of Wight	1849	1825	221	5822255	Ditto	686	...
Nansemond	1567	1544	277	5284897	Ditto	684	...
Norfolk...	906	751	156	1945281	Ditto	405	...
Princess Anne	1185	1070	165	2752138	Ditto	565	...
Elizabeth City	825	499	67	1903605	Sweetcent	...	340
Warwick...	692	615	115	3208660	Ditto	...	572
York...	1202	786	254	6959643	Ditto	...	1343
James City	1327	1046	170	5661327	Ditto	...	1010
New Kent...	1296	1127	264	6054266	Ditto	...	1081
Hanover...	1750	1674	502	9642104	Ditto	...	1721
Charles City	1088	974	172	4059532	Prunoco	420	360
King William	2294	2114	578	12572771	Sweetcent	...	1953
King & Queens	2670	2484	440	13978811	Ditto	...	2184
Gloster...	3451	2976	456	16885209	Ditto	...	3013
Middlesex...	1192	1027	165	5708050	Ditto	...	892
Cass...	2413	2221	450	13214975	Prunoco	688	1573
Spotsylvania	900	687	57	2694941	Sweetcent	...	421
King George	1130	921	248	4919795	Ditto	878	...
Stafford...	1747	1605	204	9920988	Prunoco	2067	...
Westmorland	2007	1822	462	10170464	Ditto	2118	...
Northumberland	1713	1535	527	6481992	Ditto	1350	...
Sancaster...	1233	1041	128	5899465	Prunoco	819	351
Richmond...	1551	1429	256	7467773	Prunoco	1037	458
Northampton	986	922	99	1864684	Prunoco	388	...
Accomack...	1290	1152	105	5452114	Ditto	1156	...
	40877	39904	6769	188019960		17752	17262

Sweetcented Tobacco 17262

Prunoco... 17752

34984



The Rec<sup>t</sup> of His Majesties Revenue of 2<sup>d</sup> p<sup>er</sup> hoghead & Rising <sup>[p<sup>er</sup> hog]</sup>  
 within this Colony of Virginia from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1724 to the  
 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1725.

The Receiver General doth Charge himself  
 w<sup>th</sup> the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the last Account .....	£ 3965.	9.	6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the Upper District of James River .....	112.	14.	— <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the Lower District of James River .....	56.	16.	10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the District of York River .....	95.	5.	4
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the District of Rappahannock River .....	177.	9.	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the District of South Potomack .....	59.	5.	9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of the Port of Accomack .....	22.	7.	4
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of Sundry Rights of Land sold .....	55.	9.	5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
The Rec <sup>t</sup> of Fines and Forfeitures .....	12.	3.	6
	£ 4777.	—.	2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself  
 By the Payment of the following Sums. —

p half a Years Salary to the Governor .....	£ 1000.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Council .....	175.	—.	—
p a Warrant to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer .....	100.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Auditor of the Plantations .....	50.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Solicitor of Virginia .....	80.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Attorney General .....	20.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Clerk of the Council .....	80.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Remourer .....	6.	—.	—
p half a Years Salary to the Gunners of the Battery of James Town .....	25.	—.	—
p a Warrant to the Ministers attending One General Court .....	6.	—.	—
p a Warrant for Repairs done to the Governors House .....	9.	19.	10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
p a Warrant for Contingent Charges .....	34.	—.	—
p allowance to the Auditor @ 5 p <sup>er</sup> cent on £ 811. 10. 8 .....	40.	11.	6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
p allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum .....	40.	11.	6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
So that the Curr Disburs <sup>t</sup> Amounts to .....	£ 1609.	2.	11 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
And there will remain due to Ballance this Rec <sup>t</sup> .....	3167.	17.	5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
	£ 4777.	—.	2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

John Brynes Rec<sup>d</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>



[p. 303]

The Accot of His Majesties Revenue of Quit Rents &c  
from the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 1724 to the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1725.  
Rising within this Colony of Virginia.

The Receiver General doth charge himself  
with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Balance of the last Accot. . . . .	£	4062	16	3½
To Sundry old Arrears collected by the Receiver General . . . . .	£	1	9	10
To the Quit Rents of the Northern Neck for the Year 1724 . . . . .	£	6	13	4
To the Accot of Compositions for Wschecked Lands . . . . .	£	9	3	8

### Quit Rents for the Year 1724.

Counties Names	Number of Acres paid for	Paid for in Money or Tobacco	Deduction for Sherriffs Salaries at			Tobacco due after Sherriff Salary deducted	Sold at £ Cent	Paid in Money and Amount of the Tobacco		
			20 <sup>cts</sup>	14 <sup>cts</sup>	10 <sup>cts</sup>					
Accomack. . . . .	105511	£103, 6, 2½				£10, 6, 7½		£92, 19, 7		
Ditto. . . . .	115872	2750 9½				2781, 25025½	12/6	156, 9, 6½		
Brunswick. . . . .										
Charles City. . . . .	85834	£85, 16, 8½				£8, 11, 8		77, 5, -½		
Ditto. . . . .	1080	259.				25½	25½ 12/6	1, 9, 1½		
King City. . . . .	31905	£31, 18, 1½				£3, 2, 9½		28, 14, 3½		
Ditto. . . . .	717	172.				17.	155. 16/8	1, 5, 10		
Warren. . . . .	172269	£172, 5, 4½				£17, 4, 6½		155, - 10½		
Ditto. . . . .	1325	518.				51½	286½ 16/8	2, 7, 5½		
Gloucester. . . . .	162938	£162, 18, 9½				£16, 3, 10½		146, 12, 10½		
Hannover. . . . .	178805	£178, 16, 1½				£17, 17, 7½		160, 18, 6		
Henrico. . . . .	269176	£269, 2, 6½				£26, 18, 4½		242, 3, 2		
Ditto. . . . .	10151	2456.		341		2095.	12/6	15, 1, 10½		
James City. . . . .	84695	£84, 13, 10½				£8, 9, 4½		76, 4, 6½		
Ditto. . . . .	25	6.				½	5½ 16/8	11		
Joke Night. . . . .	197589	£197, 7, 9½				£19, 14, 7½		177, 13, -		
Ditto. . . . .	3745	898½ 179½				719½	12/6	4, 9, 10½		
King William. . . . .	15750	£155, 14, 7½				£15, 11, 5½		167, 3, 1½		
King & Queen. . . . .	213165	£213, 2, 3½				£21, 6, 4		191, 16, 11½		
Ditto. . . . .	1115	267½				26½	240½ 16/8	2, - 1½		
Richmond. . . . .	73390	£73, 7, 9½				£7, 6, 9½		66, 1, -½		
Stafford. . . . .	25596	£125, 11, 11				£12, 11, 2½		113, - 8½		
Ditto. . . . .	420	100½		14		86½	10/-	8, 8		



Counties Names	Number of Acres Paid for	Paid for in Money or Tobacco	Deduction for Sheriffs Salaries at			Tobacco due after Sheriffs Salaries deducted	Sold at £ Cent	Paid in Money and Amount of the Tobacco Sold		
			20 Pct	14 Pct	10 P Ct.					
Torfolk										
Ditto	1354	525		45½		279½	12/6	1	14	11½
Northampton	105600	£105, 12, -			£10, 11, 2½			95	-	9½
Ditto	589	90½			9½	94	12/6		10	6
New Kent	90955	£90, 19, ¾			£9, 4, 10½			81	17	2
Prince George	168555	£168, 12, 8			£16, 17, ¾			151	15	7½
Ditto	1309	562		50½		511½	12/6	1	15	11½
Princess Ann	100850	£100, 17, 7½			£10, 1, 9			90	13	10½
Ditto	14604	5505		490½		5014½	12/6	13	16	9½
Spotylvania	117751	£117, 14, 7½			£11, 15, 5½			105	19	1½
Perry	207596	£207, 11, 11			£20, 15, 2½			136	16	5½
Ditto	2845	610½	122			488½	12/6	5	1	1
Newark	39495	£39, 9, 11½			£3, 19, -			55	10	11½
York	69219	£69, 4, 4½			£6, 15, 3½			62	5	11½
								£27, 2	10	11½
								£7095	14	7½

(p. 404) Bureau of Quit Rents for the Year 1725 paid in the Year 1724.

Counties Names Paid in	Number of Acres paid for	Paid for in Money or Tobacco	Deduction for Sheriffs Salaries at			Tobacco due after Sheriffs Salaries deducted	Sold at £ Cent	Paid in Money and Amount of the Tobacco Sold		
			20 Pct	14 Pct	10 P Ct					
Accomack	1600	£0, 10, -			£0, 1, -				9	-
Ditto	100	24			2½	21½	12/6		5	11½
Wing City										
Princess Ann	50	272	£0, 5, 5½		£0, 0, 6½				4	10½
Newark	112									
Yancey	110									
Hanover										
New Kent	1378	£1, 7, 6½			£0, 2, 9			1	4	9½
Doore										
King & Queen	100	£0, 2, -			£0, 0, 2½				1	9½
Gloucester										
King Willm	1440	£1, 8, 9½			£0, 2, 10½			1	5	11



Bounties Names Paid in	Number of Acres paid for	Paid for in Money or Tobacco	Deduction for Sheriffs Salaries at			Tobacco due after Sheriff Salary deducted	Sold at p. D.	Paid in Money and Amount of the Tobacco Sold		
			20 p. Ct.	14 p. Ct.	10 p. Ct.					
Henrico	2654	£ 2. 13. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 5. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$			2.	8.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jale Wright	150									
Prince George	142	£ 0. 14. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 1. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			15.		
Curry	450									
Warrimond	100									
Jale Wright	300	£ 0. 5. -			£ 0. 0. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$			7.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Norfolk	119931	£ 11. 9. 18. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 11. 19. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$			107.	15.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto	1029	£ 2. 4. 7.		34 $\frac{1}{2}$		2 1/2	12/6	1.	6.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Kent	490									
Hamover	252									
Henrico	1000	£ 2. 3. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 4. 4			1.	19.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
James City	100									
Prince George	685									
James City	400	£ 2. 2. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 4. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$			1.	15.	- $\frac{1}{2}$
Curry	469									
Princess Ann	220	£ 0. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 0. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			5.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Spotsylvania	42897	£ 42. 17. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 4. 5. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$			55.	12.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Curry										
Henrico	437									
Prince George	90	£ 1. 12. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 3. 3			1.	9.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jale Wright	2045									

£ 160. 6. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$

Recears of Quit Rents for the Year 1722 paid in the Year 1724.

Accomack	500	£ 0. 10. -			£ 0. 1. -			7.	-	
Ditto	100	£ 2. 4. -			£ 2. 2. 12/6			5.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Olney City										
Princess Ann	50	£ 0. 1. -			£ 0. 0. 1				11	
Henrico	370	£ 0. 7. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 0. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			6.	8	
Jale Wright										
Curry	100	£ 0. 2. -			£ 0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$			1.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
New Kent	170	£ 0. 3. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 0. 4			3.	- $\frac{1}{2}$	
Prince George	643	£ 0. 12. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 0. 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			11.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Spotsylvania	42897	£ 42. 17. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$			£ 4. 5. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$			55.	12.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

£ 42. 9. 2



p 452 continued

Counties Names Paid in	Number of Acres paid for	Paid for in Money or Tobacco	Deductions for Sheriffs Salaries at			Tobacco due after Sheriffs Salary deducted	Sold at 1/2 C <sup>t</sup>	Paid in Money and Amount of the Tobacco Sold			
			20 p <sup>ct</sup>	14 p <sup>ct</sup>	10 p <sup>ct</sup>						
Arrears of Quit Rents for the Year 1721 paid in the Year 1721.											
Accomack	125	£0. 2. 6			£0. 0. 3			£...	2.	3	
Ditto	100	... 24			2 1/4	2 1/2	12/6	...	3.	11 1/2	
Elizabeth City											
Princess Anne	50	£0. 1. -			£0. 0. 1				-	11	
Spotsylvania	41792	£41. 15. 10			£4. 5. 7			37.	12.	3	
								£ 37.	19.	1/2	
So that the whole Receipt Amounts to								£	7352.	9.	10 1/2



[over.]

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself

By the payment of the following sums out of the Rent Rents.

By His Majesties Warrant to Henry Rainsford for his Annuity Ending the 24 <sup>th</sup> of March 1724/5....	£ 500.	-	-
By two Warrants to the Commissary for a years Salary Ending this day .....	100.	-	-
By two Warr <sup>ts</sup> to the Attorney Gen <sup>l</sup> for a years Salary Ending this day .....	100.	-	-
By an allowance to the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General of 5% p <sup>er</sup> lb <sup>t</sup> on £2812. 14. - 1/2 to enable him to remit the same to London by Bills of Exchange at the common allowance of 15 p <sup>er</sup> lb <sup>t</sup> .....	158.	4.	3 1/2
By an Error in the last Rec <sup>d</sup> of Rent Rents to the disadvantage of the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General .....	2.	10.	-
By allowance to the Auditor @ 5 p <sup>er</sup> lb <sup>t</sup> on £2969. 13. 1...	148.	9.	7 1/2
By allowance to the Rec <sup>d</sup> . General on the same sum	148.	9.	7 1/2
So that the sum Disburst amounts to £	1118.	13.	7
And there will remain due to Balance this Rec <sup>d</sup>	6215.	16.	5 1/2
	£ 7332.	9.	10 1/2

John Hrymes Rec<sup>d</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>.



[publ]

May 4<sup>th</sup> 1725

I have Examined the within Accot of His Majesty's Revenue commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1724. and ending the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1725. and have compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by John Brynes Esq. Rec. Genl. And find the Charge thereof amounting to Seven Thousand Three hundred thirty two Pounds nine shillings ten pence half penny and the Discharge to One Thousand one hundred eighteen Pounds thirteen shillings seven pence both truly stated so that there is due to His Majesty's Revenue for Ballance of this Accot six Thousand two hundred thirteen Pounds sixteen shillings three pence half penny Sterling

Nath<sup>l</sup> Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup>

May. 4<sup>th</sup> 1725.

This Accot. compared and Examined by Nathaniel Harrison Esq. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by John Brynes Esq. Receiver General

Hugh Drysdale

[publ]

Endorsed. Virginia / Receiver Generals / Accot<sup>s</sup> of the Revenue of 2<sup>d</sup>/p lhd on Tobacco, the / produce of some Pi<sup>l</sup> rates Effects / and Quit Rents / referred to in / Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's / letter of 31<sup>st</sup> May / 1725 / Rec<sup>d</sup> July 3<sup>rd</sup> / Read } 1725 / 2: 88.



Williamsburgh in Virg<sup>a</sup> June 4<sup>th</sup> 1724 <sup>(1724)</sup>

My Lords /

In my last I had the Honour to inform your Ld<sup>ships</sup> of the receipt of their Excell<sup>ties</sup> the L<sup>ds</sup> Justices order concerning the rights and 2<sup>d</sup> rents of the two new erected Counties, and my disappointment of meeting that Council, which I had summon'd for issuing the necessary directions pursuant thereto: I am now to acquaint your Ld<sup>ships</sup>, that I have had the opportunity of a Council and that according to my duty I was resolved to govern my self by those Orders:

But thro my predecessors management, (whomade haste to be before hand with any instructions that should come in hither of that nature) the lands in those Counties especially Spotsylvania, are parcelled out and patented in a manner so inconsistent and directly opposite to their Excell<sup>ties</sup> commands, that I am at a loss to reconcile them to the purport and design of their intentions: whereby I am put under a necessity of delaying the Execution of their Orders, and of addressing my self to your Ld<sup>ships</sup> for the favour of your advice and directions in this intricate affair which that I may possess in the fullest manner, I begg permission to lay before your Ld<sup>ships</sup> the true state of the whole matter: The L<sup>ds</sup> Justices on issuing their restrictions and limitations seem to believe,



that all the lands in the two new Counties were shut up from all persons possession, untill such time as his Majesties pleasure was known, upon what terms he should think fitt to grant the exemptions petitioned for by the Assembly: But

I am to observe to your Honors, that a very great quantity of the most valuable lands in spot: <sup>[psab]</sup> silvania was entered for with the surveyors, even before the act of Assembly erected itt into a County, and the very night that Act passed, petitions were delivered to the Governour in Council, praying leave to take up large tracts of land in that County, which was readily agreed to, as will appear from an extract of that Councells Journalls hereunto annex'd, and Marked with N<sup>o</sup>. 1

The next subsequent step to this, was, the Governour much about the time he was superseded, proceeded to give and sign patents to each patentee, for these large tracts of land they had entered for, but neglected calling upon those patentees, to produce rights for the importation of persons into the Colony, or to shew certificates from the officers of his Majesties revenue, of such patentees having passed into their hands for his Majesties use, five shill sterl. for every fifty acres: one of which, all persons are obliged by law to



perform, before they enter for any land in Virginia:

This defect was supply'd, by obliging y<sup>e</sup> patentees to give bonds; of wch there are two sorts; the first binds down the patentee to pay when demanded five shill sterl. for every fifty acres to his Majtie which is much the same with a prompt paymt: these bonds were directed in Councell, and there arises only two of this kind.

The second sort the Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> drew, by Boll Spotswoods single authority, which are indeed next to no bonds at all, for the patentee is indulged with a liberty of either holding or resigning his patent according to his pleasure, & tho' the consideration in these patents as in all others, expressly mention for five shill sterl. for every 50 acres paid to his Majesty's <sup>[pp 307 10</sup> use; yett these patentees refuses to pay <sup>the Kings rights,</sup> or to hold the land, but offer a Surrender: a copy of these two sort of bonds, and of a patent, is herewith sent and marked each with the N<sup>o</sup> 2:

Hence it is, that the Kings lands are occupied for some years past, and no rights or R<sup>ts</sup> rents paid, or can be demanded.

Hence it is that these lands, which by the Lords Justices commands, are limited to be granted in noe greater quantities, than 1000 acres to any one person,



are parcelled and patented out in tracts of 10, 20, & 40000 acres apiece to a few, and little left to dispose off, beside the most remote, barren, and unprofitable:

Hence it is, that the intention of the Crown, to make that County of Spotsylvania, a well inhabited frontier, is frustrated:

And from hence it is, that the Government here is perplexed how to construe, or to comply with the Lords Justices Comands:

That your Ldshps may be apprised what quantities of land were patented, before their Excellencies the Lords Justices order came to my hands, I send a list of the severall dates of the patents, the number of acres contained in each grant, and the names of those persons to whom granted in a paper N<sup>o</sup> 3. Among these distributions, Coll Spotswood had great regard to his private interest, for I find tracts of land, one of 20, another of 40000 Acres entered for, and patented under borrowd Names, for his use, and since conveyd to him: for which, he has neither paid rights, nor given either sort of bond, to pay if <sup>demanded</sup> demanded, or to surrender. / That your Ldshps may be likewise apprised of the Quantity of land he possesses in Spotsylvania County, I add itt to. together in a paper N<sup>o</sup> 4:

I am further to acquaint your Ldshps, that



when the line was run, to make Spotsylvania a County, some Owners of land in the Contiguous Counties, artfully contrived to gett their estates which consisted of about 125000 acres of land, to be included within the bounds of this new erected county, that they might be exempted from paying 2<sup>d</sup> rents, tho' such land had been regularly taxed, from the first entry, whereby his Majesty suffered considerably in his annual revenue: but my instructions are most clear as to that point, and I have made a demand for all such arrears, & will oblige the proprietors of those lands to account for em. Coll Spotswood possessed 26000 acres, in one or other of those Counties, which are now all flung into Spotsylvania.

Such being the Circumstances of these two new erected Counties, especially of Spotsylvania (Brunswick is so remote from any navigable river, that few or none have seated yett there) I humbly presume your Ldshps will be induced to believe, there are many Cases my present instructions cannot reach, which puts me under a necessity (that I may be the better enabled to act with justice to the King and Subject) of tendering a few queries to your Ldshps consideration, and praying your Ldshps resolves thereon: they are contained in the paper N<sup>o</sup> 5:



I shall wait with the duty that becomes  
me, for your Ldps answer, and conclude this  
trouble with the assurances of my being your  
Ldps most obedt. and

humble Sert

Hugh Drysdale

[p. 102] Endorsed Virginia / Letter from <sup>Major</sup> ~~Col.~~ Drysdale, /  
Dated June the 6<sup>th</sup> 1724, / complaining of several /  
Exorbitant Grants of / Land by Col. Spotswood. /  
Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> } 1724 / 2:10.  
Read D. 15<sup>th</sup> }



N<sup>o</sup> 1

Extract out of the Council Journal of <sup>[p. 153]</sup>  
the 2<sup>d</sup> of December 1720 of the Quant-  
ity of Land licensed to be taken up  
in the County of Spotsylvania Virg<sup>t</sup>

Acres

To Richard Hickman Gent. & his Partners . . . 20000

To Robert Carter Esq<sup>r</sup> . . . . . 5000

To Cole Diggs, & Peter Beverley Esq<sup>r</sup> & W<sup>m</sup> Robertson 2000

To William Bassett and Gawin Worbin Esq<sup>r</sup> . . 15000

To Augustine Smith and Lawrence Smith . . 10000

To Robert Brooke Jun<sup>r</sup> & Augustine Smith Will<sup>m</sup> } . . 5000  
Brooke, Humphrey Brooke and George Braxton

To Gawin Worbin Esq<sup>r</sup> . . . . . 5000

To John Bagg Old . . . . . 10000

To George Parker & his Partners . . . . . 10000

The above is an Exact List of the Lands peti-  
tioned for, in Spotsylvania County, the same  
night the Act passed for erecting that County  
Wil Robertson Clk Con

Endorsed. Virginia / Extract of the Journal / of <sup>[p. 156]</sup>  
Council of <sup>Virginia</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> / 1720, relating to Land / Li-  
censed to be taken up / in Spotsylvania County /  
rec<sup>d</sup>. with <sup>my</sup> Col: / Wyndham's lett<sup>r</sup> / of 6: June 1724. /  
Rec<sup>d</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> }  
Read 13<sup>th</sup> D<sup>c</sup> } 1724. / Q: 71.



N<sup>o</sup> 2

Know all Men by these presents that I R:B<sup>(p. 17)</sup>  
of the County of \_\_\_\_\_ am held and firmly  
bound unto Our Sovereign Lord George by  
the Grace of God of Great Britain &c :  
King &c in the Sum of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of  
good and lawfull Money Sterling; To the  
payment whereof well and truly to be made  
to our said Lord the King his Heir and  
Successors, I bind my self my Heirs Ex<sup>rs</sup>  
& Adm<sup>rs</sup> firmly by these presents, sealed  
with my Seal, and dated this \_\_\_\_\_ Day  
of \_\_\_\_\_ 1722.

The Condition of the above Obligation  
is such. Whereas the General Assembly held at the  
Capitol the 2<sup>d</sup> Day of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1720 (amongst other things)  
did petition his Majesty that the Unpatented Lands lying  
in the County of Spotsylvania and Brunswick might be  
granted to his Subjects without the payment for Rights  
according to the Laws of this Colony; And Whereas the  
abovebound R:B hath obtained a patent of our said  
Lord the King, under the great Seal of this Colony bearing  
Date the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ aforesaid for \_\_\_\_\_ Acres of Land  
in Spotsylvania County. If therefore the said R:B his  
Heirs, Ex<sup>rs</sup> or Adm<sup>rs</sup> (if his Rights shall not think fitt  
to grant the same according to the said petition) shall  
find so many good and sufficient Rights, for the said.



lands according to Law when he shall be thereto  
required, then the above Obligation, to be Void other-  
wise to remaine in full force and Virtue.

Sealed & Delivered

in presence of

True copy of the Bonds directed to be taken

by the order of Council 19<sup>th</sup> April 1722

W<sup>m</sup> Robertson Clk Gen



N<sup>o</sup> 2.

I know all men by these Presents that I<sup>[p. 159]</sup>

R<sup>th</sup> of King & Queen<sup>(our)</sup> are held and firmly  
by bound unto our Sovereign Lord George,  
by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France,  
and Ireland &c King &c in the Sum of  
of lawfull money of Great Britain,

To be paid to our said Lord the King his  
Heirs and Successors. To which paymt will  
& truly to be made, I bind my self my Heirs,  
Ex<sup>rs</sup> & Adm<sup>rs</sup> firmly by these presents, seal-  
ed, with my seal & dated y<sup>e</sup>      day of  
in the      Year of the Reign, of our  
said Lord the King, and in the y<sup>e</sup> of our Lord  
Christ 1722

Whereas the abovementioned R<sup>th</sup> hath ob-  
tained two Grants from his Maj<sup>ty</sup> by his Letters pa-  
tents bearing date y<sup>e</sup>      Day of      in the Year  
the one for      Acres & the other for      Acres  
of Land lying in the County of Spotsylvania, for which,  
the S<sup>r</sup> R<sup>th</sup> hath not paid the Rights, being the Con-  
sideration in the S<sup>r</sup> Letters patents mentioned, Now the  
Condition of the above Obligation is such, That if the  
S<sup>r</sup> R<sup>th</sup>: his Heirs &c shall and do at any time and  
times within three Months after Demand, pay & satis-  
fy the said Consideration of Rights to the Rec<sup>d</sup> Gent<sup>l</sup>  
of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>'s Revenues; or produce to the Secretary of



this Dominion so many Importation Rights as would  
otherwise entitle him to a Grant of Acres of Land  
(if the same shall be required) within three Years from  
the Day of the Date of these presents, or on failure of  
such payment, if the S: R D: his Heirs or Assigns  
shall yield up & Surrender the said Letters patents to  
his Maj<sup>ty</sup> Lieut Gov<sup>r</sup> or to the Governor or Commander  
in Chief of this Dominion for the time being for his  
Maj<sup>ty</sup>'s use, then the above Obligation to be void, other  
wise to remaine & be in full force & Virtue.

Sealed & Delivered

in presence of

True copy of the Bonds prepared by  
Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswoods own order

W<sup>m</sup> Robertson Sec<sup>y</sup> Gen



N<sup>o</sup> 2.

George to all & know ye That for <sup>[p 261]</sup>  
diverse good Causes and Considerations but more Es-  
pecially for and in Consideration of the Sum of Two  
hundred Pounds of good and lawfull money for Our  
use paid to Our Receiver General of Our Revenues in  
this Our Colony & Dominion of Virginia We have  
given granted and confirmed and by these presents  
for us Our Heirs and Successors do give grant and  
confirm unto Thomas Jones Gent John Clayton Esq and  
Richard Hickman of Williamsburgh One certain Tract  
or Peel of Land containing forty thousand Acres lying  
and being in St. George's parish in Spotsylvania Coun-  
ty and bounded as followeth (to witt) **Beginning**  
at the Mouth of the Russel Run on the upper side  
the Mouth stands two marked Trees of unknown Wood  
and two Olms on the Lower side the Mouth against an  
Island in the Rapidan River Thence up the several  
courses of the Russel to four Pines standing on the  
West side the said Run Thence North Seventy Degrees  
West Six Hundred and fifty poles to a White Oak  
on the West side the Mine Run Thence South Seventy  
five Degrees West seven hundred poles to three Pines  
on a steep Hill side the south side the Mountain  
run Thence South Thirty seven Degrees West Sixty  
Eight poles to two red Oakes on a Hill Thence North  
Seventy Eight Degrees West one Hundred and Eight



poles to a white & red Oak and poplar on the North  
Side the Mountain Run Thence North East Seventy eight  
poles to two red and small white Oak on the North Side  
the said Run on a point Thence North West One Hun-  
dred and forty two poles to four small white and a  
small red Oak by the head of a meadow Thence West  
Eighty poles to three Hicories in a Valley Thence North  
forty poles to a white Oak & Hicory Thence North West  
by West Eighty eight poles to a Hicory Thence South  
West by West one Hundred and thirty eight poles to a  
red Oak Thence South fifty eight poles to a white Oak  
Thence South West Two hundred and two poles to  
four Red Oaks Thence North West One Hundred and  
Eighteen poles to two red Oaks Thence South West  
Seven hundred and fifty four poles to a red Oak  
Thence South South West fifty poles to two white  
Oaks Thence West South West thirty four poles to a  
white and red Oak Thence West thirty six to a white  
Oak Spanish Oak and Elm Thence West South West  
Nineteen Hundred and Twenty poles over the Little  
Mountains near a white Oak and Hicory in a Valley  
Thence South South West Ten poles to a stake by a  
great Hicory and small white Oak on a Hill  
Thence West South West Three Hundred and forty  
poles to a Spanish white and red Oaks on a Hill -  
Thence North North West Seven Hundred and thirty



four poles to five Burches and a Mulberry Tree  
on the South Side the Rapidan against the Mouth  
of the Robinson Thence over the Rapidan to the  
North of the Robinson Thence up the Robinson the  
Several Courses on the North Side to the upper side  
of the Mouth of the Meander Run to a red Oak and  
Three Maples by the Robinson River Side Thence  
up the several Courses of the Meander Run to a  
poplar spanish white Oak and Burch on the Lower  
Side the Meander and the Upper side of a small  
Branch Thence North Thirty degrees East Twelve hun-  
dred and Sixteen poles crossing some branches of  
the Cedar Run to Three Hicories Two white Oaks  
and a poplar Thence North Seventy Degrees East four  
Hundred Twenty Eight poles to Three white Oaks  
on the Lower side of a Run of the Mountain Run  
by a Stony point Thence down the Run the Several  
Courses till it comes into the main Mountain Run to  
Three Hicories a white Oak a beech and Maple  
on the North Side the Mountain Run Thence down  
the Mountain Run the Several Courses to Three  
Spanish and white Oaks and Gum by the Run  
Side at the Upper Side the Mouth of a small branch  
Thence up the branch to Three white Oaks on the  
East Side the branch Thence North Sixty five  
Degrees East five Hundred and Twenty Eight



poles between three white and Red Oaks upon a  
Hill Thence South Thirty degrees East four Hun-  
dred thirty two poles between five white Oaks  
Thence South South West One hundred Twenty  
four poles to two poplars a Spanish and white  
Oak in a branch in Ed<sup>o</sup> Carters Line Thence with  
Ed<sup>o</sup> Carters Line South Thirty five Degrees West One  
Hundred and forty poles to two red Oaks Thence  
South Seventy degrees West fourteen poles to a red  
and white Oak Thence North Twenty Degrees West  
One Hundred poles to a white Oak Thence South  
fifty five Degrees West One Hundred Seventy two  
poles crossing the Mountain Run to two white Oaks and  
Hicory Thence South Three Hundred Eighty two  
poles to Three white Oaks by the side of a blade  
Thence east Sixty two poles to a red Oak stand-  
ing among great stones by the side of a Little  
Mountain Thence South West Twelve Hundred and  
Twenty poles crossing two branches of the Blue  
bowlip Run to Two Hicories Three white Oaks and  
a Spanish Oak Thence South Seventy Degrees East  
Eleven Hundred and Twenty two poles to a Blue  
bowlip Run to two Spanish Oaks Two black Wal-  
nuts Two Pines and a double poplar standing  
by the Run side Thence North Eighty five Degrees  
East Eleven Hundred and seventy poles to Three



red and a white Oak Thence East by South One Hun-  
dred and Ninety poles to two red and two white  
Oaks on the West Side of Brooke Run Thence South  
Twenty Degrees West One Hundred Twenty poles down  
the Said Run to four red Oaks upon the Upper  
Side of Brooke run Thence East by South One  
hundred and Sixty six poles to two white Oaks on  
the East Side the German Run Thence South Sixty  
five East Two Hundred and Ten poles to four  
white Oaks on the Upper fork of Brays Branch  
Thence down the Run the several courses to the  
Rapidan River Thence crossing the Rapidan to the  
Beginning place **Withall &c** To have hold &c To  
be held &c yielding and paying &c provided &c In Wit-  
ness &c Witness our Trusty and Well beloved Alexander  
Spotswood Our Lieutenant Governor &c at Wmshurgh  
under the Seal of our Said Colony the Twenty Second  
day of June One Thousand Seven Hundred and Twen-  
ty Two in the Eighth Year of our Reign

A Spotswood

Copia Test R. Hickman Lt. Sec. Office



[p. 362]

Endorsed. 2 Virginia / <sup>copy of</sup> <sup>A</sup> <sup>Mr. Jones, Mr. Clayton</sup>

6 / Mr. Hickmans patent in <sup>[in Drysdale hand]</sup> trust for Collo

Spotwood / for 40,000 Acres / of Land in / Spot.

Sylvania County / Oct 22<sup>o</sup> June / 1722. / with

two forms of / a Bond entered into / by Patentees. /

rec<sup>d</sup>. with ~~bot~~ Mr. / Drysdale's letter / of 6<sup>o</sup> June 1724. /

Rec<sup>d</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>st</sup> } 1724. / Q: 72.  
Read 13<sup>th</sup> D<sup>c</sup>



January 24<sup>th</sup> 1723.

No. 3 A true list of all the patents that have been issued  
for land in Potomac County.

Patentees	Number of Acres	Dates of y <sup>e</sup> patents
Augustine Smith - - - 1 -	4000	May 9. 1722 . . . . . 2000
Edward Tipping - - - 2 -	5000	May 26. 1722 . . . . . 4000
Larkin Chew - - - 3 -	4400	June 4. 1722 . . . . . 8400
Larkin Chew - - - 4 -	3800	Same day . . . . . 2800
Larkin Chew - - - 5 -	2400	Same day . . . . . 1400
John Waller - - - 6 -	1000	June 5. 1722 . . . . .
Gavin Corbin - - - 7 -	2000	June 6. 1722 . . . . . 2000
Gavin Corbin - - - 8 -	15000	Same day . . . . . 14000
Thomas Jones 9		
John Clayton Esq. 10		
Richard Hickman - - - 11 -	40000	June 22. 1722 Spotswood.
John Diggers Esq. 12		
Peter Beverley Esq. & 13		
W <sup>m</sup> Robertson - - - 14 -	12000	June 23. 1722 - 9000
Bartholomew Yates 15		
Lewis Latane 16		
Christopher Robinson - 17		
John Robinson Esq. 18		
Jeremiah Blower 19		
Harry Beverley 20		
William Stanard & 21		
Edwin Thacker - - - 22 -	24000	July 20. 1722 . . . . . 16000
Harry Beverley - - - 23 -	6720	Same day - - - - 3720
Hugh Jones - - - 24 -	5000	Same day - - - - 4000
James Taylor - - - 25 -	5000	July 21. 1722 . . . . . 4000
James Taylor - - - 26 -	3500	Same day . . . . . 7500
Richard Hickman - - - 27 -	19786	. . . . . Spotswood
Edward Tipping 28		
Richard Hickman & 29		
Ralph Dough - - - 30 -	10000	July 23. 1722 . . . . . 4000
John Robinson Esq. - 31 -	1750	July 25. 1722 . . . . . 850
William Beverley 32	2500	July 27. 1722 . . . . . 1500
Augustine Smith - - 33 -	1000	February 16. 1722 . . . . . 600
William Handford - - 34 -	400	May 14. 1723 . . . . .
Henry Irwin - - - 35 -	2000	May 24. 1723 . . . . . 2000
Larkin Chew - - - 36 -	1600	June 12. 1723 . . . . . 600
Thomas Chew - - - 37 -	2180	Same day - - - - 1180
John Robinson Esq. - 38 -	5059	June 20. 1723 . . . . . 4059
John Quarles - - - 39 -	417	Septemb <sup>r</sup> . 30. 1723 . . . . .
Abraham Field - - - 40 -	800	October 3. 1723 . . . . .
	194012	

Turn over



[p. 364]

Patentees	number of Acres	Dates of the patents.
Henry Webber - - - 41 -	- - - 2 0 0 0	October 28. 1723 1000
Rambrose Maddison 42		
Thomas Chew - - - 43 -	- - - 4 6 7 5	November 15. 1723 3675 *
Augustine Moore - - 44 -	- - - 3 4 6 2	Same day 2462
Robert Coleman - - 45 -	- - - 1 5 0 0	December 2. 1723 500
Augustine Moore - 46 -	- - - 1 0 0 0	December 14. 1723 . . . .
Harry Beverley - - 47 -	- - - 2 0 8 4	December 24. 1723 2084 †

1 4 7 2 1  
 1 9 4 0 1 2  
 2 0 8 7 3 3

Test R Hickman Cl Sec<sup>th</sup> office

[p. 365] Endorsed. Virginia / List of Land granted / by Col<sup>l</sup>  
 Spotswood in / Spotsylvania County. / rec<sup>d</sup>. with ~~Mr~~<sup>Mr</sup> Drysdale's  
 letter / of 6: June 1724. / Rec<sup>d</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> 1724. / Q: 70.  
 Read 13<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>th</sup>



Land belonging to

(p. 367.)

N<sup>o</sup> 4

Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood <sup>(added later)</sup> [in Spotsylvania County:]

Vint.

One tract granted to W<sup>m</sup> Robertson by patent the last day of October 1716 and by him conveyed to Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood in November following which is called Acres  
Germana is . . . . . 229

One other tract granted to Richard Hickman by patent the 2<sup>d</sup> day of November 1719 and conveyed to Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood in Decemb<sup>r</sup> following, contains — — 5065

One other tract in the fork of Rapp<sup>h</sup> River granted to Harry Beverley by patent the 2<sup>d</sup> of November 1705 and by him conveyed to Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood the 22<sup>d</sup> of April 1720. Contains 1920

Which three tracts of land (and have been in-  
formed) lie together and about June or July 1722 a  
patent was made out in the name of Richard Hickman  
(in trust for Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood) for 25000 acres which  
includes those three tracts; But that patent has  
not yet been returned to be entered in the Secre-  
taries office, nor the land conveyed to Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood  
by the said Hickman the new land contained in  
that patent is 19756

One other tract called the Iron-mine granted  
by patent the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 1719 to Robert Beverley  
v Thomas Jones, which I have heard has since been



Sold to Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood, contains - - - 15000

One other tract at Massaponax which was mortgaged to Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Nicajah Perry and Richd Perry by one Charles Smith for 1000. years and by the said Perrys assigned to Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood, Thomas Jones, John Baylor & Robert Beverley the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1720 is re-  
puted to be - - - - - 5650  
(p. 108)

/ But Smiths widow has part of that land assigned to her for her Dower And for aught I know, Jones, Baylor, and Beverley may yet have right to part of it

And one other tract called Spotsylvania Company tract granted by patent the 22<sup>d</sup> of June 1722 to Thomas Jones John Clayton and Richard Hickman in trust for Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood and since conveyed to him, contains

40000

36650

Rich<sup>d</sup>. Hickman

<sup>(p. 109)</sup> Endorsed. Virginia / List of large Tracts / of Land  
belonging to / Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood. / rec<sup>d</sup>. with Col<sup>o</sup>. Drysdale's  
letter / of 6. June 1724. / Rec<sup>d</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> } 1724 / 2: 74 / 6  
Rec<sup>d</sup>. 15<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>



N<sup>o</sup> 5

Querys humbly offer'd to the Right <sup>[to 71]</sup>

Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lords Commissioners for Trade and  
Plantations for the better explaining the  
Order of the Lords Justices of the 6<sup>th</sup> of August  
1723 concerning the Lands in the new Erect-  
ed County of Brunswick & Spotsylvania  
in Virginia —

By the Order of their Excell<sup>ties</sup> the Lords Justices,  
it is directed that no person whatsoever shall be allow'd  
to take up more than one thousand <sup>(Acres)</sup> of Land in his  
own or any others name in either of the said two Coun-  
[ties:] But their Excell<sup>ties</sup> have not been pleas'd to signi-  
fy their Commands <sup>h<sup>ow</sup> the</sup> Governor of Virginia is to  
act with those, who since the Erection of the S<sup>d</sup> County,  
and before the Arrival of the aforementioned Order have  
taken up and patented Tracts containing divers  
thousand of Acres, and are now in the actual possession  
thereof. And since it seems by the said Order, to be  
the Intention of the Crown, that in the Disposition of  
those Lands every Subject should be on an equal foot,  
It is humbly proposed,

2 Whether the Patents granted for above one thousand  
Acres of Land in the said new County without any Direc-  
tion from his Maj<sup>ty</sup>, and against his now declared Intent,  
be not for that Cause Void? and if they are, What means  
must be used to vacate the same?



Admitting it to be the Intention of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>  
to have these large Grants vacated -

- 2 Whether the same Patentee may be allowed  
to take a new Patent for a thousand Acres part there  
of, and may hold the same exempted from the pur-  
chase of Rights and payment of Quit Rents?

If the said Patents are not void, then

- 2 Whether the Patentees are to hold the Lands con-  
tained therein, or only one thousand Acres thereof exempt  
ed from the purchase of Rights & payment of Quit Rents  
for the seven Years mentioned in the Lords Justices Order?

And seeing it hath been the constant and establish-  
ed practice in Virginia, that no Lands shall be granted  
but on Consideration of persons imported to dwell here, or  
of money paid to the Kings Receiver Genl for his Majestys  
Use; and that in the granting the Lands in Brunswick  
(499) and Spotsylvania Counties that established Rule has  
been laid aside and a new Method set up by the late  
Governors single Authority, to take Bond of the Patentees  
to pay to his Maj<sup>ty</sup> after the rate of 5 shillings for every  
fifty Acres, or produce so many Importation Rights as shall  
be equal to the Quantity of Land expressed in their pa-  
tents, or otherwise to surrender the Land again, at the  
choise of the patentee It is humbly proposed

- 2 Whether such Patents granted, and no Consideration  
of Rights paid or produced be not void ab initio for



default of that Consideration which by the Constitution of the Government ought to have preceded the Signing of the Grant? and if so Whether it be his Majesty's pleasure that Suits be brought by vacating the same? or,

If it be his Majesty's pleasure to allow the Patentees to hold their Lands upon payment of the full Consideration expressed in the patents,

- 2 Whether such posterior payment of the Consideration can make good the Title of the patentee without taking out a new patent?

As the Bonds aforementioned leave the Obligors at Liberty to produce Importation Rights, for the Lands mentioned in their Grants, and yet in the Patents themselves the Consideration is expressed to be for money paid to the Kings Use,

- 2 Whether such persons can be allowed now to discharge their Bonds by producing Importation Rights? and if they may, Whether such Rights can make valid a patent granted upon the Express Consideration of money paid?

But since it appears that some of the Patentees intend to surrender their Grants according to the latter alternative in the Condition of their Bonds,

- 2 Whether the Money due to his Majesty for the Rights, and expressed in the patents as the only Consideration upon which the Lands were granted,



may be recovered notwithstanding such Surrender?

N: B Where Lands are granted and afterwards  
Lapse for not Sealing or for Non-payment  
of the Quit Rents, the first patentee, tho:  
he received no Benefit from his Grant,  
yet loses all the Rights He paid at the  
taking out his patent: And there is no  
greater Hardship in Case of a Surrender  
than in the Case of a Lapse, both proceed-  
ing from the Act of the Patentee himself

Q Whether any patentee may have the Liberty of  
surrendering part of his Land, & keeping the residue,  
and on what Terms shall such Residue be held?

And in regard there are divers persons de-  
sirous to take up in these new Countys greater Tracts  
than a thousand Acres, and to purchase Rights im-  
mediately for the same, and without claiming any  
Benefit of the Exemption from payment of Quit Rents.

Q Whether his Majesty will be pleased to allow  
such greater Quantities of Lands to be granted in the  
said new Countys where the patentees are willing  
to take them on the Terms of an immediate pur-  
chase of Rights & payment of Quit Rents?

It appearing that Col: Spotswood has taken  
out in other peoples Names two patents the one for  
40000 Acres, and the other for 20000 Acres of new



Land on Spotsylvania County without paying the Money due to the King for the Rights upon which the patents were granted or giving Bond for the payment thereof.

2 Whether those patents be not void, since the King is entirely deceived in the Consideration?

2 Whether Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood can by any posterior payment or tender of the consideration money, make Valid the <sup>3</sup> patents, at the granting whereof the King was thus deceived?

And Whereas one Patent hath been granted near two years ago, for every large quantity of Land, which patent is not produced by the Patentee to be entered on Record in the Secretaries Office according to the ancient Usage of this Colony, and as the Act of Assembly past in 1710 Ent<sup>d</sup> an Act for settling the Titles and Bounds of Lands &c seems to require,

2 Whether such Patent be void?

Endorsed <sup>31</sup> Virginia / Queries relating to <sup>[copy]</sup>

Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswoods Oratorical / Grants of Land. / received

with <sup>May</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> / Drysdale's Letter / of 16. June 1724. /

Rec<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> } 1724. / 2: 45. / 7  
Read 13<sup>th</sup> D<sup>r</sup>.



Virginia (Spotsylvania County) June 16<sup>th</sup> 1724 <sup>[1729]</sup>

My Lords

If during the twelve years that it was a Duty incumbent on me to render an Accot of my Administration to your Lordships Board, I never was faulted for any Remissness or Impertinence in my Correspondence, but on the contrary had the good fortune to receive from your Lordships many signal Approbations of my Conduct, permit me now, upon the Credit of what is past, to offer this to your Consideration, & as I continue no less devoted to y<sup>e</sup> Service of my Prince & Country, than when I Ruled a Province; I may hope still to deserve the continuance of your Lordships just Protection.

Strange it may appear that I remain thus long abroad, without returning to give my Master an Accot of my Stewardship; but I beg that may not be imputed to me for a Crime, which happens to be y<sup>e</sup> unhappiest circumstance of my Life; for here am I living under a vexatious impatience for some safe opportunity - to get home, truly mortify'd to think that I am y<sup>e</sup> only person in these parts abridgd of y<sup>e</sup> liberty of venturing to Sea in any Ships, but those of Force, & y<sup>e</sup> my eminent Services, w<sup>ch</sup> brought me into this Distress, have not merited the least bare to relieve me out of it. Your Lordships will easily conceive my meaning, when you reflect on y<sup>e</sup> Vigorous part I've acted to suppress Pirates: And if those barbarous



Wretches can be moved to cut off the Nose & Ears of a Master for but correcting his own Sailors, what unhuman Treatment must I expect, should I fall within their power, who have been marked as y<sup>t</sup> principal object of their Vengeance, for cutting off their arch Pirate Hatch, with all his grand Designs, & making so many of their Fraternity to swing in the open air of Virginia?

Another way I have to account for my stay in these Parts, if I may be allowed to make a Virtue of Necessity — Finding my Self confined on this side the Water until a man of War offered to give me a Passage home, & judging it prudent for me to retire from y<sup>t</sup> Seat of Government, to avoid all Censure of my concerning my Self with y<sup>t</sup> Administration, I soon after my return from Albany, w<sup>h</sup> is above a year & an half ago, took up my Residence here in the wild Woods, 140 Miles distant from Williamsburg, which is as far as I could well go, being got to one of y<sup>t</sup> extreme West<sup>ern</sup> Settlements of all his Majesty's / Dominions; & in this Retirement, not enduring to spend my days in Idleness, nor giving over y<sup>t</sup> thoughts of serving my Country, I assiduously apply'd my Self to pursue the Scheme, w<sup>h</sup> I had laid while I was Governor, of raising in this part of the World all manner of Naval Stores: And I have now made such a progress therein, as I believe upon



my arrival at home I shall be able to render your Lordships an agreeable Account of that undertaking; for y<sup>t</sup> Ministry will find y<sup>t</sup> I have been heartily labouring for y<sup>t</sup> Publick Good, & may perhaps say that a more generous Spirit that way has rarely appeared, when I make them a free offer of all my Possessions & Improvements here, to be made use of & carried on as They please for the Benefit of the Navy; contenting my self with y<sup>t</sup> Honour of the first Projection, if ever my Plan succeeds to lessen the Dependence of y<sup>t</sup> British Nation on the Northern Crowns, & wholly relying on my Prince's Favour to make any farther use of my faithful Services, or allow me a competent Support for what I surrender.

I hope I have now fully satisfy'd your Lordships as to the just occasion of my stay in these parts, & the sequel of this Letter will farther shew how little Allurements I have had to continue in them, & may serve to justify the extraordinary step I am going to make, when I am about taking a journey to try if I can pass Incognito on board some Ship to the Steward (for I am too well known to all y<sup>t</sup> Trade of Virginia) where neither Master, nor sailors know me, & so may possibly escape the knowledge of y<sup>t</sup> Pirates, if I should have y<sup>t</sup> misfortune of falling into their hands.

This hazardous Step I am urged to by the grievous Usage I meet with from my Successor, Mr



Drysdale, who led by the Counsels of my ever inveterate Adversaries, seems to aim at nothing less than y<sup>e</sup> ruin of my Character, & y<sup>e</sup> defeating of all my aforementioned undertakings. I thought indeed I had retired far enough out of the way of giving offence, but that I find impracticable, since the Governor has pitcht upon a base drunken infamous Fellow, of this County, to bring him the Character of Persons & the reports of Transactions in this Neighbourhood, & has been pleased to Countenance & encourage him, even contrary to his Word of Honour given me the last Year, when I waited upon him to make a formal Complaint; setting forth that this same fellow, who had served me as a common Carpenter for Wages, had had the insolence in his drink to lay violent hands on me, & collar me at my own door before my servants, & that tho' I had sufficiently Corrected him for his Insult, yet I hoped He [Mr Drysdale] would in regard to the Station I had been in, shew such a mark of his Displeasure at the rude Attempt, as that y<sup>e</sup> common People might not think they were to be encouraged by the present Administration to Affront me: But when <sup>(p. 201)</sup> after this Application I see this very Man Ranting in the County with new Commissions of profit & Honour doubled upon him & his saucy Son; Drinking damnation Healths within my hearing; Roaring out a Chus (for that's his



29  
Name) or a Spotswood for the first man of the  
County; Boasting, upon this behaviour of his, of the  
extraordinary Countenance he meets with at Court;  
Telling how y<sup>e</sup> Governor always takes him by the hand  
& invites him to Dinner; Bragging of fifty pounds  
he has got for his late journeys to Court, & of two  
hundred which he is to have for his Secret Services;  
Threatning all y<sup>e</sup> sober Justices, who shewd their dis-  
like of his drunken & riotous behaviour, y<sup>t</sup> he would  
have them turn'd out of the Commission of y<sup>e</sup> Peace  
(w<sup>ch</sup> accordingly upon y<sup>e</sup> next journey of his we find  
actually done) Running about with Papers levelled at  
my Character, and seducing y<sup>e</sup> illiterate Vulgar to  
set their Marks to they know not what, or drawing others  
in their drink to sign what they utterly deny when they  
are sober; Stirring up y<sup>e</sup> People to petition y<sup>e</sup> Assembly  
to take away for Town-lands y<sup>e</sup> very Spots of Ground where  
I am building my Wharfs and Warehouses for Shipping  
off my Naval Stores; Prompting y<sup>e</sup> Surveyors of y<sup>e</sup> High  
ways to mend no Roads, nor repair any Bridges w<sup>ch</sup> my  
Carriages use; Instigating my Innants to discharge  
none of their Engagements to me, but to run with  
idle Stories to this Governor, who will be sure to  
stand by them; And in short infusing into the  
Peoples heads y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> best way to obtain any thing  
of y<sup>e</sup> new Governor is to do something to affront or



prejudice y<sup>e</sup> old one: Now I say, My Lords, when I find my self so unfortunately placed under the Administration of a Gentleman, who can be capable of hallooing y<sup>e</sup> vilest of fellows upon me to worry my Character, I must think it high time for me to seek at all hazards another place of safety, as not knowing what length y<sup>e</sup> malice of such wicked Instruments may go, when countenanced by the Person who has y<sup>e</sup> power of Life & Death in his hands.

But it might appear too much like meer railing, to affix harsh Epithets to y<sup>e</sup> Character of an Adversary, without displaying other grounds, than ones own Resentment; & the Language might seem too rude to approach your Lordships Board, unless shewn y<sup>e</sup> it was needful for ones Defence: and therefore tis fit to apprize your Lordships y<sup>e</sup> if any Remonstrances be handed to your Board, wherein y<sup>e</sup> testimony of Sarkin Whew is used, I shall be ready to manifest that mans Character to be answerable to my Epithets; & truly to know y<sup>e</sup> Instruments imploy'd in forming an accusation, may give the best light into the Truth & Honesty of it.

<sup>(p. 111)</sup> However upon y<sup>e</sup> bare apprehension of a Charge, I shall not presume to trouble your Lordships with any thing necessary for my Defence, especially since I am at a loss to guess where my Enemies design to attack me, I being in the state of an Invested Fortress, cut off from



all Intelligence, & discovering only by extraordinary movements if if Trenches are going to be opened some where: And I do not question satisfying your Lordships upon my arrival at home, if I am Besieged & distressed by my Adversaries here for y<sup>e</sup> same Cause that formidable Towns generally are, vizt. not for y<sup>e</sup> unrighteousness of the Inhabitants, but for the destruction which y<sup>e</sup> situation of y<sup>e</sup> Place gives to y<sup>e</sup> Enemies Designs.

Upon this Topic I have a great deal to offer, but shall defer y<sup>e</sup> same until I have y<sup>e</sup> happiness of being personally at hand to explain my meaning; & your Lordships will I hope take this to be no interruption to y<sup>e</sup> grand Concerns of the Nation's Trade & Plantations, which are so wisely placed under y<sup>e</sup> care and management of your Board, since it is truly an humble application from a Person who has been fourteen years abroad faithfully studying how to render these Colonies subservient to Great Britain's Interest, & is no more than a Request to be fairly heard upon y<sup>e</sup> Subject, without suffering those, who have ever been his constant opponents on this head, to take advantage of his present unfortunate Exile, to prejudice his Character by any foul representations, in order to cast an artfull slur upon what they expect he will set forth.

But least ought should be already sent home, concerning the Sands in the two new Counties, & charging me with exorbitant Possessions there (which I perceive is



the strain they are now upon) it may not be out  
of time to offer now the inclosed, which is y<sup>e</sup>  
Copy of a Letter I wrote to y<sup>e</sup> Auditor here, upon  
y<sup>e</sup> subject of y<sup>e</sup> Rights & Quit Rents, w<sup>ch</sup> he demand-  
ed from y<sup>e</sup> 2 new Counties: And as it contains  
several Arguments on that head, & gives a particular  
acct of y<sup>e</sup> Lands I have taken up, I should be glad  
your Lordships thought it worthy of your perusal; & I  
should not doubt, whenever I had y<sup>e</sup> honour to be  
before your Lordships Board, of explaining several  
Points relating to y<sup>e</sup> Lands in Virginia, w<sup>ch</sup> seem  
at present to be misunderstood. In the mean while  
I remain with all Dutiful Respect.

my Lords

Your Lordships

Most Obedient &

Most Humble Servant

A Spotswood

The Lords Comiss<sup>rs</sup> of Trade

<sup>[p. 114]</sup> Endorsed. Virginia / Be from Ed: Spotswood /  
late Lieu<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> of Virginia / dated 16: June 1724. /  
Read } Septem<sup>r</sup>: 2: 1724. / 2: 17. / 10



Germania March 25<sup>th</sup> 1724. [p. 355.]

8<sup>r</sup>

The Subject of your Letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> of the last Month, relating to the Lands in the two new Counties, is of such concern as ought to receive no slight Answer from me, who have good reason to apprehend that aim has been taken at my Possessions, by those who have first broached the notion that a Restriction of Lands, peculiar to these two Counties, would be most for his Majesty's Interest. And under such apprehensions I cannot but think it behoves me to set forth in the clearest light the Means that I have used, the Views that have prompted me, & the Occasions that have urged me, to take up the Tracts of Land which I am at present possessed of; for I should be loath to lie under any imputation of having made the least irregular Steps, during my Administration, to promote my own private Interest, or of carrying on, while I was Governor, any other Projects than such as I was fully persuaded were for the Service of my Prince, & Welfare of my Country. And in going to lay before you Matters, which properly concern the Auditor of his Majesty's Revenues here to be rightly apprized of, I may like as the Apostle opened his Cause before King Agrippa; say I think my self happy in having this Occasion to answer you touching my Possessions in this County, especially because



I not only know you to be expert in all Customs to be observed by those who take up Land in this Colony, but also to have been such a constant near Witness to the Transactions of my Government, that what I offer through you must, if you gainsay it not, be taken for Granted by those persons who have been remoter from y<sup>r</sup> Knowledge of the Passages: And all the favour I desire of you in this case is, that if I set forth Ought which you are not fully satisfy'd in, you will be so kind as to acquaint me with your Doubts or Objections, that I may better explain my self before you make y<sup>r</sup> Remarks.

And first as to the Means I have used in taking up my Land; I will maintain that, in Entering & Surveying the same, I have strictly pursued the Directions prescribed in that behalf long before I had any thought of taking up a foot of Land in Virginia; & that, in Patenting & paying the Rights and Quit Rents, I have also as punctually comply'd with the Rules of Government, as any persons in the Colony: And tho other Persons Names have been used to take up the Tracts wherein I was concerned, yet I appeal to <sup>(p. 176)</sup> the Members of the Council, whether I ever made a secret thereof, & did not declare that my reason for so doing was, because I thought I could not be both the Grantor & Grantee: Neither can it be alledged



by any Surveyors whom I have employ'd that I ever offered to abate him one penny of his usual Fee in surveying for me.

In the next place, I shall shew that my primary Views in taking up Land have not been to raise in this part of the World a mighty Landed Estate for my own Proffit or Pleasure; but that I have been first led into y<sup>e</sup> possession thereof, either by motives of Charity, or by notions of securing the Frontiers, or by a publick Spirit in promoting Naval Stores, or else I have been drawn in by some Incidents or cogent Circumstances to engage my self farther in those Matters, than I ever intended at my first setting out.

Every Man that is endued with a common Share of Thought & understanding to forecast his Worldly Affairs (& I presume none that know me will exclude me from that number) certainly forms to himself some apparent Comforts, when he unconstrainedly embarks in an Undertaking that must quite change the Scene of his Life: then admitting this Position, let's examine whether it can be fairly concluded that the Care of my self, or the prospect of my own Interest, was the original Inducement to my taking up all the Lands I am now Master of. I am confident no one will offer to say that either my Circumstances or Character at home, could make me think of taking a Retreat



in the forests of America, or that any Demerits in my Prince's Service should make me dread to return to his Royal Presence; Nor could the Expectations of a comfortable Living induce me to lay the foundation of a Virginia Estate, seeing that before I took up one Acre of Land I had been long enough among you to observe that your best Estates are not to be preserved but by immense Trouble & Care: Neither am I, nor ever was, in that State to be urged by Wife or Children to forgoe the Ease of my own Life, in order to make a future Provision for theirs. Then if none of the foregoing Considerations have moved me to acquire my present Possessions, I cannot readily think of any others, of y<sup>e</sup> Stamp of Self Interest, that should prompt me; And until they are pointed out to me, I shall forbear farther reasoning on that head, & so proceed to display what have been the real motives & occasions of my being so far concerned in Land within this County.

?  
see history

The first Tract that I became possessed of was 6.773 5229 Acres called / the Germana Tract from my seating thereon several Families of German Protestants, to the number of forty odd Men, Women, & Children, who came over into America in the Year 1714, bringing with them a Minister & School Master in order to be provided for & settled upon Land in those parts by Barron Graff: fenriede pursuant to an Agreement he had made with



them in Germany. But before their arrival the Baron being compelled in his affairs here, & forced to return to Switzerland, those poor People would have been sadly distressed, & must have been sold for servants had I not taken care of them, & paid down One Hundred & fifty pounds sterl. which remained due for their Passage: And y<sup>e</sup> Council Journals, of the 25 April in the same year, will shew that my Charity for these Strangers I joyned my Care for the Security of the Country against Indian Incursions, by choosing to seat them on Land 12 Miles beyond the then usual course of our Rangers, & making them serve for a Barrier to the most naked part of our Frontiers: And so far from my thoughts was it, to take up the Land for my own Use, that during the six years they remained on the Land I never offered to plant one foot of Ground thereon.

My next Tract was that of 3065 Acres which being contiguous to that of Germanna, I thought fitting to take up, the better to accommodate those People when I found them grow fond of having their Settlement enlarged, it having been concerted that I should convey to them by way of Lease for Lives, because as Aliens their Possessions would not descend to their Children: but they being seduced away by some greater expectations elsewhere, left the Land upon my hands; & so I was first engaged to purchase servants and Slaves.



for seating Plantations in this Colony.

Soon afterwards I was drawn into another Land Concern after this manner; in Feby 1717 Mr Richard Blackmore writes to Mr Secretary Cook to engage me to favour a Design, which He, with several considerable Men at home, had to set up Iron Works in Virginia, & desires People might be employ'd to find out the Oar, and some Thousands of acres taken up for y<sup>e</sup> purpose. Accordingly I set my Germans to work to look for such Oar, w<sup>th</sup> search cost me upwards of Three score Pounds: But about two years afterwards I recd a Letter from Mr Richard telling me he had at Length considered that he was Advanc'd in Years, that his Health was of late im-  
[pair'd] paired, & that the Undertaking / was at too great a Distance, & therefore he had determin'd to drop the Project. Whereupon, rather than enter into a Contention for my reimbursment, I chose to joyn in with several Gentlemen here, who were willing to carry on the Project, & bear their proportion of the Charges I had already been at; And so the Mine Tract, consisting of 13000 Acres of Land, was in the Year 1719 taken up by Nine or Ten Adventurers. About the same time I fell into another Partnership of Land, by the following Motives & inducement; Mr Robert Beverley having discovered some excellent Land among y<sup>e</sup> little Mountains, & made



a Survey thereof before the Proclamation issued in the year 1710, concerning the Granting Land, but not daring to Seat Land so remote from all Christian Inhabitants, & exposed to Indians, found it in vain to take out a Patent for the same under the new terms of Cultivation; until an opportunity hapned of freeing a considerable number of German Families imported in the Year 1717, when he invited me to become a sharer in the Land, & at y<sup>e</sup> same time admitted some other Partners, to the end we might all joyn our abilities to make a strong Settlement with a body of People at once. Accordingly I came into the Proposal, as judging it no ways unbecoming me, in the Station of Governor, to contribute towards the Seating His Majestys Lands; and paying down the Passage Money for seventy odd Germans, We settled them upon our Tract as Free Men (not Servants) in twenty odd Tenements, all close joyning to one another for their better defence; providing them there with a Stock of Wattle & all other things necessary for their Support, without receiving (even to this day) one Penny or Pennys worth of Rent from them.

This Tract then consisted of about 13000 Acres, but afterwards understanding that many others of the Germans, who had been sold for Servants in this



Colony, designed when the time of their servitude was expired, to come & join their Country folks; We thought it needful to enlarge the Tract; & I finding, by the Care which the Lords Commissioners of Trade took to send over the Methods for making Hemp & Linn, that the Ministry at home was for encouraging the Plantations to raise Naval Stores, judged it convenient to take in a large quantity of Piney Lands, which lay contiguous & fit for Tar and Masts; & so it was increased to a Tract of 40000 Acres. And considering the number of free People we have seated upon it (with whom we agreed to allow them out of it sufficient Lands for their Lives, <sup>[p. 119.]</sup> & who are now about an/hundred Germans) it will not appear such an exorbitant Possession as some Persons have been pleased to represent it. And if I am now become possessed of both this & the Mine Tract without any Shares, I have been brought into that circumstance more by Necessity than Choice; for it is well known here that two of my Partners dying, the Executors of the One, & the Heir of the Other positively refused to go on with the Design; & that a Third fell under such encumbrances as obliged him to give it over, & all the rest growing less sanguine upon the undertaking, than they were at first, I found my self reduced to the Dilemma of either seeing an



hopeful Project (which I firmly believed would prove a publick Good) miscarry, or of taking the whole Adventure upon my self; which last part I chose to Act, & so reimbursed every body the ut-  
most Penny that they had expended.

His fit I also observe to you that I have another Patent for 25000 Acres (pass'd the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1722 in the name of Richard Dickman) which ap-  
pears not upon the Rent-Roll you sent to the Sheriff of this County; but you are to understand that the same is not all New taken up Land, but is a Patent containing several former Grants, & some of the above-mentioned Tracts are included. The main inducement to the enlarging my Tracts by taking in the inter-  
weaving Lands, & adding some others contiguous to the Mine Tracts was to accommodate several families of People; whom we have imported, & must still import more, in order to carry on so grand an Undertaking as that of raising all manner of Naval Stores: and the Agreement I make with the Persons whom I employ, will manifest that I have not taken up the Land to sell it for Gain, but only expecting a moderate re-  
bursement of my Charges, appropriate a great part there-  
of to the settling People near to the Works they are skill'd in. I am apt to think from this Tract not being in your Rent Roll, that it may not also appear



upon the Records of the Secretarys Office; & probably that may proceed from the directions I once gave y<sup>e</sup> Clerk to forbear Recording it, until I could be better satisfy'd as to some Error w<sup>ch</sup> I apprehended to be in the Survey.

As for the Tract adjoining to the Chistanna Indians Land, wherein y<sup>e</sup> desire my directions about closing the Survey; I entred for the same with no other view than to Support the Charity School <sup>1773</sup> which I had there set up for the Indian Children, & since I have been forced to give over that Design, I shall in let the Land drop with it: For the Settlement I have made there being scarce y<sup>e</sup> fiftieth part of y<sup>e</sup> Charge I have been at on that account, I esteem as a trifle, and nothing in comparison of the Concern it has given me to see miscarry, merely by an Envious opposition, a pious Design w<sup>ch</sup> was in less than 3 years time brought to that perfection, as for me to be hold in School at once 75 Children, led thither by their Heathen Parents, in order to be initiated in the Principles of y<sup>e</sup> Christian Religion; besides the 11 Hostage Children, w<sup>ch</sup> then came 400 miles to be kept at the same School.

But this may not be the only Sacrifice of Land I shall make; for if I am to Struggle with the same Opposition in the publick spirited Design I have of raising



Naval Stores in this part of his Majesty's Dominions, I shall throw up y<sup>e</sup> greatest part of my Possessions, & strive to set narrower Bounds to that fond Humour I have ever had to render my Country more than ordinary Service. Yet this Step you are not to expect that I will make, before I have had y<sup>e</sup> opportunity to lay before my Prince, or his Ministry, the drift of my Undertakings, & meet with discouragements at home from pursuing any Design. In the mean while I am ready to pay whatever be the Demands of this Government upon me, but hope consider such submissive Conduct I may, without offence to the present Authority, expostulate with you upon your Construction of their Excellencies the Lords Justices late Order for Remitting the Rights & Quit-Rents of the two New Counties.

What a Stir & Cido has there been about the said Remission? in y<sup>e</sup> first place it has been the Subject matter of many days Deliberation in y<sup>e</sup> General Assembly of Virginia, & in the next both Council & Burgesses have presumed to trouble their Sovereign with it, then as a Matter of great moment it has been Referred to the Consideration of three Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Boards, before their Excellencies would determine upon the Point; and after all, tho we are well assured that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to Grant y<sup>e</sup> Remission,



yet we find by your Rent: Roll & Instructions to the Sheriff that his Royal Bounty extended to the whole County of Spotsylvania for 3 years, amounts to no more than Twenty eight Shillings; w<sup>th</sup> you know when received after the usual course of Payments & Deduc:<sup>ions</sup>, would scarce make his Majesty's Revenue of Quit Rents richer by Ten Shillings. Now can any one, with a just regard to Royal Dignity, suppose that so trifling a Sum could fall under the intentions of our Prince? or must we not conceive unworthy thoughts of the Ministry, to imagine they would spend their time about considering so insignificant a Matter, & me thinks no more than this very Reflection might be sufficient to convince y<sup>e</sup> that your late Directions for collecting the Quit Rents of the two new Counties are very wide from their Meaning at home.

But pray Sir, tell me what Words in the Grant can lead you into such a Construction thereof, as to confine y<sup>e</sup> Remission of Quit Rents only to John Waller & William Mansford, for their 1400 acres of Land; all that I can collect out of the Lords Justices Order concerning the Point in hand is this. Their Excellencies the Lords Justices in Council finding that it may be for the advantage of the Crown & the security of Virginia to encourage the settlement of two new Counties call'd Brunswick & Spotsylvania, are therefore pleased (pursuant to what is thereby proposed) to Grant a Remission



of y<sup>e</sup> Quit Rents and purchase of Rights for the Term  
of Seven Years, to be reckoned from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May  
1721, under the following Restriction vizt That no  
person whatsoever be allowed to take up more than  
One Thousand Acres in his own or any other Name in  
Trust for him in either of the said Counties. This  
being the Sum of all (if my Copy be right) that can  
be pickt out to support your Construction, I appeal to  
y<sup>e</sup> unconcerned part of Mankind, whether from these  
Words in the Grant they would not naturally con-  
clude that all Persons, who made Settlements in the  
said Counties, should for y<sup>e</sup> Lands they held therein, be  
exempted from paying the Rights & Quit Rents due  
to the Crown from the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1721. to May 1728; & y<sup>t</sup>  
the afore cited Restriction is no more than an Instruc-  
tion to the Governor (which he could not observe before  
it came to his hands) plainly calculated for the thicker  
Seating the two new Counties. but to wrest & force such  
a meaning out of the foregoing Words, as that all Patents  
whatsoever bearing date before the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1721, & all  
Tracts containing more than 1000 Acres, tho' taken  
up before the Kings Pleasure was known, should be  
excluded from his Maj<sup>ty</sup>s Bounty, I fear is but too  
certain an indication of the further Discouragements  
we are like to meet with in prosecuting y<sup>e</sup> Design  
of securing the Passes in the Mountains. [p. 40]



For my part I am not ashamed or afraid to own that I first set it on foot, how uncourtly or injurious soever it may be for me, under the present influence of affairs in this Colony, to confess or be known to have had an hand in any thing: And if I, who have been at the Expence & Fatigue of going in person to the discovery of the Passage in the Mountains; if I, who first drew the People out to seat this County by the strong frontier settlements I made for their Protection; if I, who led the way to take up large Tracts of those long neglected Lands called Poisoned Fields; & if I, who have been at the Trouble & Expence of seating about 500 People upon Lands in this County, must by a forced Construction be excluded from the King's County, I have only to regret the Pains I have taken to Answer the Ends proposed by the Grant, since I find they must not intitle me to y<sup>e</sup> Benefits thereof.

Every Man that reads the Lords Justices Order in Council will allow that y<sup>e</sup> only Inducement mentioned for Remitting the Rights & Quit Rents (which is several times repeated in the Grant) is to encourage y<sup>e</sup> speedy Settlement of the two new Counties; & if People do accordingly proceed actually to build Houses there, clear Lands, &c. it must be owned that they effectually comply with his Majesty's Intentions; & I cannot see how it lessens the merit of their Undertakings, to have begun



to deserve y<sup>e</sup> Reward, even before the Encouragements were proposed: For if it should, I ought not to expect y<sup>e</sup> Bounty at home for my Tor made from green Pines, because I had barkt y<sup>e</sup> Trees before the Act of Parliamt. passed for Directing & Encouraging People so to do. Sure I am too that the Assembly of Virginia, tho they well knew that there were some hundreds of People then resident in the two new Counties, yet without exception they Exempted all y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants thereof from the Publick Levy & allotted the Money for Churches, Court houses, & Arms equally for the Case of all, as well of those already settled there, as of such as, should thereafter come to dwell therein: And as that Assembly Addressed the Crown for this Bounty now given, 'tis fairly to be presumed that His Majesty has been pleased to grant it in the same Sense & Latitude it was Petitioned for, so far forth as is not in the Grant express'd to y<sup>e</sup> Contrary.

Besides when you determine y<sup>e</sup> Lands, Patented before the date of y<sup>e</sup> Bounty, could not come within the purview of y<sup>e</sup> Encouragements, have you rightly considered / the Case of some Lands in this County, which have been taken up under the former Law for Seating & Saving Lands, by Virtue whereof y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors have only to prove that there was once an House built thereon, & an Acre of Ground tinded & may continue their



possession of the whole Tract, be it never so great, without keeping one Hand thereon & certainly Encouragements are more wanted to engage Proprietors to Seat Tracts w<sup>ch</sup> are under those circumstances, than any other Tracts that are to be taken up under the present Law, w<sup>ch</sup> enjoyns such Improvement as will oblige the Owners very soon to Seat People thereon, or forfeit their Land.

Having now argued enough (I hope) to convince you of y<sup>t</sup> Misconstruction put upon y<sup>t</sup> Kings Grant, in excluding all Patents of a Prior date to May 1721, permit me next to observe that in the Order for Remission of y<sup>t</sup> Quit Rents & Rights there is no such directions as that the Proprietors of above one Thousand Acres should forfeit his Majestys Bounty: there is indeed that the Governor shall not allow any One person whatsoever to take up above that quantity within the two new Counties; but that Instruction can be understood to take place only from the time it came to his hands, & as y<sup>t</sup> Lords Commissioners of Trade, who thought it fit to insert that Restriction in their Report, know (from the Information I gave them) of the large Tracts which were Entered for in the said two Counties immediately upon passing y<sup>t</sup> Act for Erecting them, it is not to be supposed that their Lordships would have been silent upon the Lands then already taken up,



if they had thought it expedient for his Majesty to except them out of his Bounty. So that the presumption is greatly on our side, & since the words of the Grant will fairly admit of an Exposition in favour of the Proprietors who had taken up large Tracts before their Sovereign's Pleasure was known, We hope the Expositors will be guided by y<sup>e</sup> established Maxim in these cases, which is to expound all Grants of Charity or Bounty in the most beneficial sense, & not put such a rigid Construction on the present Gracious Order, as if it were designed rather to Punish, than to Reward or Encourage: For we are told here that it has been vehemently declared that we shall not be allowed to Surrender any part of the Lands Patent<sup>d</sup> in this Bounty, but shall be obliged to pay the purchase of every Acre we have taken up, & y<sup>e</sup>. y<sup>e</sup> Board given during my Administration, which imports the contrary, has been / severely condemned. [p. 190]

But pray let's examine the reasonableness of this Conduct by some parallel instance in private Concerns; for it is natural for the People to expect from the Government the same Measure that they mete out to one another. Suppose I went to a new Store in this Country where it is rumoured that Goods will be sold at a certain moderate Price, but the owner thereof has not yet ascertain'd the same, however the Store



keeper allows me to take up a large parcel thereof,  
& secure them for my own use, upon giving my ob-  
ligation to pay on demand the rates w<sup>ch</sup> his Master  
shall set upon his Goods; or else to return them in  
the same condition I received them: Afterward I find  
them rated beyond my expectations, and thereupon  
return the Goods, or for such as I keep I pay y<sup>t</sup>  
Price which the Master has set on them. Now s<sup>r</sup>.  
as this is a plain familiar Case, exactly to the Point  
in hand, & which every Planter in the Colony is capable of  
forming a judgment upon, it would be impertinent to  
offer all y<sup>t</sup> reasoning that obviously occurs on this head,  
to prevail upon our present Rulers to suffer us to throw  
up what Lands we do not think worth paying for in  
these new Counties; for we shall restore them in the  
same condition we received them, without ever having  
made use of them, & y<sup>t</sup> only loss will be to those who  
have had the Trouble & Expence of Surveying and Pa-  
tenting such Lands

Besides in my humble opinion the very contrary  
of such a Restraint is plainly imply'd in the Grant; for  
His Majesty expressing his Pleasure that no person  
be allowed to take up above a Thousand Acres, natural-  
ly implies that whoever have taken up more shall  
be permitted to reduce their tracts to that quantity;  
And if any Adventurers, before they knew their Masters



Will; have embarked in undertakings that cannot  
be carried on by so small a quantity of Land, & have  
already gone too far to draw now their Designs within  
such a narrow compass, without manifest injury to  
themselves & Families, it is not to be doubted but that  
when it shall be truly understood, how the taking  
up large Tracts has been allowed practice for many  
years past all over Virginia, & how the present limi-  
tation of Acres was proposed in the Bill for Erect-  
ing of two new Counties, but was almost unanimo-  
usly rejected by y<sup>e</sup> Burgesses; I say when such circum-  
stances are fully known, the Adventurers on great  
Tracts will not be looked upon as Transgressors, &  
may appear as worthy objects of his Majesty's <sup>(p. 45.)</sup> favour,  
as Waller & Standford. For if a Man intent upon mak-  
ing provision for a numerous family of Children, has  
under the expectation of obtaining those remote Lands  
without Purchase, or the burthen of Quit Rents for  
some years, been induced to remove hither with all  
his Family & Substance (which is the case now of  
some Gentlemen here) it is a severe surprize upon him  
to find himself constricted out of all the Advantages  
that prompted him to adventure hither, & excluded  
from His Majesty's Bounty merely because he happens  
to have a larger Family to provide for than his Neigh-  
bours. Or if a Man venturing upon new undertakings



(such as not only the Assembly of Virginia, but also the Parliamt. of Great Britain have made Acts to promote) & considering that they must at first be carried on by People brought from other parts, because none of the Inhabitants of this Colony are skil'd therein, does therefore secure a large quantity of Land contiguous to his Works, in order to accommodate the several Workmen, which he must necessarily import, & settle with their Families nigh to the Business they are employ'd in; I say if such a Publick Spirit is to be excepted out of the present Encouragmt. given by the Crown, then one may reasonably conclude that, either his case has been misrepresented at home, or his Majesty's Gracious Intentions misconstrued here.

I have now Sr. troubled you w<sup>th</sup> a long Letter upon a Subject which I thought proper largely to display to you (not only as you are a Member of His Majesty's Council here, but also in this Colony supply the Place of the Auditor General of y<sup>e</sup> Plantations) to y<sup>e</sup> end y<sup>e</sup> if either that Hon<sup>ble</sup> Board, or y<sup>e</sup> Chief at home, should happen to have any Doubts or misapprehensions of y<sup>e</sup> Matters I have been handling, you may hereby be enabled to clear them up: And as I presume you know me better than to imagine I would after this manner impose on you any Untruths, so I have that confidence in y<sup>e</sup> Integrity, as to repose



my Self intirely on you: to do justice to my Cause.  
 The reason I have been so very particular in my  
 own Case, is because I find y<sup>e</sup> general notion pre-  
 :vails among the People that I am the Jonas that  
 brings all these storms & hard Constructions upon  
 them; & if I must be thrown overboard before all  
 those who have embarked w<sup>th</sup> me can be saved, I  
 was willing to shew that I was not in the Pro-  
 :phets Case, Guilty of Wilful Disobedience.

I am

S<sup>r</sup>.

your most Obedient

Humble servant

R Spotswood

Col<sup>o</sup>. Nathl<sup>l</sup>. Harrison

Endorsed. Virginia / Copy / of Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswoods Let<sup>r</sup> [p. 146]  
 .ter / to y<sup>e</sup> Dep<sup>t</sup> Auditor of His Maj<sup>ty</sup>s Revenues / in Virginia /  
 March 25<sup>th</sup> 1724 / recd with Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswoods Let<sup>r</sup> / of 16: June  
 1724 / { Retd } / Septem<sup>r</sup>: 2: 1724. / Q: 78. / 11<sup>th</sup> 25



To the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lords Commis<sup>rs</sup> <sup>[p. 279.3]</sup>  
sioners for Trade and Plantations.

May it please your Lordships.

In obedience to your Lordships commands signified to us by Mr. Wheelock referring to us the copy of a Letter from Mr. Drysdale Lieutenant Governor of Virginia dated the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1724 with several Queries relating to some exorbitant Grants of Land made by Coll: Spotswood (his Predecessor) together with several other Papers hereunto annexed, and desiring our opinion upon the said Queries in point of Law, We have considered the same, and also the other papers, And we have been attended by the Agent for the Province of Virginia, and by Coll: Spotswood, who laid before us some Observations upon Mr. Drysdale's Letter and Queries which are also hereunto annexed. And we begg leave to submit our opinion to your Lordships consideration upon the several Questions in the order in which they are stated to us viz.

Queries humbly offered to the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the <sup>[encl. p. 57]</sup>  
Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations  
for the better explaining the Order of the Lords  
Justices of the 6<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> 1723 concerning the Lands  
in the new erected Counties of Brunswick & Spot.  
sylvania in Virginia

By the order of their Excellencies the Lords Justices



dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1723 it is directed that no per-  
[person] son whatsoever shall be allowed to take up / more  
than one thousand Acres of Land in his own or any  
others Name in either of the said two Counties; but  
their Excellencies have not been pleased to signify  
their commands how the Governor of Virginia is to  
act with those, who since the erection of the said  
Counties, and before the arrival of the aforementioned  
Order have taken up and patented Tracts containing  
divers thousand of Acres, and are now in the actual  
possession thereof: And since it seems by the said Or-  
der to be the intention of the Crown, that in the dis-  
position of those Lands every Subject should be on  
an equal foot, It is humbly proposed.

Query the 1<sup>st</sup> - Whether the Patents granted for above one thou-  
sand Acres of Land in the said new Counties, with-  
out any direction from his Majesty and against his  
now declared Intent, be not for that cause void? And  
if they are, what means must be used to vacate the same?

Answer. - We are of opinion that the Patents granted for  
above a thousand Acres of Land in the new Counties  
are not void for that cause provided they are made  
agreeable to the Charter of the Colony and the Laws then  
in force in other respects, for we don't find any Law or  
Instruction which at the time of passing those Patents  
restrained the Governor from granting above a thousand



Acre to one person; But such Patentee for above a thousand Acres will not be entitled to hold the Land exempt from payment of purchase Rights or Quit Rents.

Admitting it to be the intention of his Majesty, to have these large Grants vacated,

Quere if 2<sup>d</sup> - Whether the same Patentee may be allowed <sup>[next]</sup> to take a new Patent for a thousand Acres, part thereof, and may hold the same exempted from the purchase of Rights and payment of Quit Rents?

Answer. - If the Patents for above a thousand Acres were void, yet we do not see any reason why the Patentee should be disqualified from taking a new Patent for a thousand Acres exempt from payment of Purchase Rights and Quit Rents according to Lords Justices order.

If the said Patents are not void, then  
Quere if 3<sup>d</sup> - Whether the Patentees are to hold the Lands contained therein, or only one thousand Acres thereof exempted from the purchase of Rights and payment of Quit Rents for the seven years mentioned in the Lords Justices Order.

Answer - We think it was the intention of the L<sup>ds</sup> Justices Order, that the not taking more than a thousand Acres of Land should be a condition upon which the exemption from purchase Rights and Quit Rents for seven years should arise; and consequently no person having a Grant for more than a thousand



Acre can be allowed the benefit of that exemption, unless he surrenders that Grant, and takes a new one for a thousand Acres, or reconveys to the Crown all the Lands comprized in his Grant which exceed a thousand Acres.

And seeing it hath been the constant and established practice in Virginia, that no Lands shall <sup>(p. 117)</sup> be granted / but on consideration of persons imported to dwell there, or of Money paid to the Kings Receiver General for his Majesties use, and that in the granting the Lands in Brunswick and Spotsylvania Counties, that established Rule has been laid aside and a new method set up by the late Governor's single authority, to take Bonds of the Patentees to pay to his Majesty after the rate of five shillings for every fifty Acres, or produce so many Importation Rights as shall be equal to the quantity of Lands expressed in their Patents, or otherwise to surrender the Lands again at the choice of the Patentee. It is humbly proposed,   
Quere the 4<sup>th</sup> - Whether such Patents granted, & no consideration of Rights paid or produced, be not void ab initio for default of that consideration, which by the constitution of the Government ought to have preceded the signing of the Grant? and if so; Whether it be his Majesties pleasure that Suits be brought for vacating the same?

Answer. Where Patents have been granted expressing a consideration of Money paid or Importation Rights produced,



and no such have been paid or produced, nor security given for them, We are of opinion such Grants were a deceit upon the Crown, and may therefore be repealed by Law, if it shall be his Majesties pleasure that they should be repealed, But if sufficient security was given to pay the consideration Money, or to produce Importation Rights that may be equal to payment or production of such Rights at the time of passing the Patent. And as the Lords<sup>(p. 45)</sup> Justices by their Order of the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1723 seem to intend a Retrospect to the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1721. We think as to Grants in the two new Counties passed since the time last mentioned, no advantage ought to be taken of the want of payment of the Consideration Money or producing the purchase Rights, provided those Grants are in other respects conformable to that order, or the Grantees will submit to make them so.

If it be his Majesty's pleasure to allow the Patentees to hold their Lands upon payment of the full consideration expressed in the Patents.

Quere the 5<sup>th</sup> - Whether such posterior payment of the consideration, can make good the Title of the Patentee, without taking out a new Patent?

Answer - Where Security was given as above mentioned, such subsequent payment we think will be sufficient, or if no Security was given and his



Majesty thinks fit to accept the payment, it will make good the Grant.

As the Bonds aforementioned leave the Obligors at liberty to produce Importation Rights for the Lands mentioned in their Grants, and yet in the Patents themselves the Consideration is expressed to be for Money paid to the Kings use.

Query the 6<sup>th</sup> - Whether such persons can be allowed now to discharge their Bonds by producing Importation Rights? and if they may, Whether such Rights can make <sup>[p. 103]</sup> valid a Patent granted upon the express consideration of Money paid?

Answer. If it was the practice in this Government for Grants to express a Consideration of Money paid, where Importation Rights were produced, we think it may be sufficient to produce such Rights, tho' the consideration mentioned in the Patent is Money paid; X but unless there was such a practice prior to the granting of those Patents, We are of opinion that producing Rights will not be sufficient, but the Money ought to be paid.

But since it appears that some of the Patentees intend to surrender their Grants according to the latter alternative in the condition of their Bonds,

Query the 7<sup>th</sup> - Whether the Money due to his Majesty for the Rights, and expressed in the Patents as the



only consideration upon which the Lands were granted, may be recovered notwithstanding such surrender?

Answer. We are of opinion that where the condition of the Bond is either to pay the consideration or surrender the Grant, if the Grant is surrendered there is no remedy to be had for the consideration.

N. B. "Where Lands are granted and afterwards lapse for not seating or for nonpayment of the Quit Rents, the first Patentee tho' he received no benefit from his grant, yet loses all the Right / he paid at the <sup>[cost]</sup> taking out his Patents. And there is no greater hardship in case of a surrender, than in the case of a Lapse, both proceeding from the act of the Patentee himself.

Quere the 3<sup>d</sup>. - Whether any Patentee may have the liberty of surrendering part of his Land, and keeping the residue and on what terms shall such residue be held?

Answer. If a Grantee would hold under the Terms of the 1<sup>st</sup> Justices Order exempt from payment of Rights or Quit Rents, he must surrender all the Land except a thousand Acres, but if he holds upon producing Rights and payment of Quit Rents, he must produce Rights and pay Quit Rents for the whole or surrender the whole.

And in regard there are divers persons desirous to take up in these new Counties greater Tracts than a thousand Acres, and to produce Rights immediately for the same and without claiming any benefit of the



exemption from payment of Quit Rents,

Quere the 9<sup>th</sup> - Whether his Majesty will be pleased to allow such greater Quantities of Lands to be granted in the said new Counties where the patentees are willing to take them on the Terms of an immediate purchase of Rights & payment of Quit Rents?

[p. 116] Answer - This being matter of Prudence must be submitted to his Majesties pleasure.

It appearing that Coll<sup>l</sup> Spotswood has taken out in other Peoples Names two Patents, the one for forty thousand Acres, and the other for twenty thousand Acres of new Land in Spotsylvania County, without paying the Money due to the King for the Rights upon which the patents were granted, or giving Bond for the payment thereof,

Quere the 10<sup>th</sup> - Whether those Patents be not void, since the King is entirely deceived in the consideration?

Answer - Coll<sup>l</sup> Spotswood being Governor and passing those Patents to Trustees for himself, and for such great quantities of Land, without paying the consideration Money, or producing Rights, or giving any Security for them, We are of opinion that such Grants were in consideration of Law a Deceit upon the Crown, and may be repealed, if it shall be his Majesties pleasure that they should be repealed.

Quere the 11<sup>th</sup> - Whether Coll<sup>l</sup> Spotswood can by any posterior



paym<sup>t</sup>. or tender of the consideration money, make valid  
the said Patents at the granting whereof the King was  
thus deceived.

Answer If his Majesty shall think fit to accept of  
the consideration mentioned in those Grants from Coll:  
Spotswood we think that may make them good, but a  
Tender by Coll: Spotswood without his Majesties ac<sup>t</sup> <sup>[1717]</sup>  
acceptance will not.

And whereas one Patent hath been granted near  
two years ago, for a very large quantity of Land, which  
Patent is not produced by the Patentee to be entered on  
Record in the Secrys Office, according to the ancient  
usage of this Colony, and as the Act of Assembly past  
in 1710, Entitled an Act for settling the Titles and Bounds  
of Lands &c.<sup>m</sup> seems to require.

Query the 12<sup>th</sup> Whether such Patent be void.

Answer. The act mentioned in the Query does not  
make the Patent void for want of being entered upon  
Record, and therefore we are of opinion such Patent is  
not void upon that account.

All which is humbly sub-  
mitted to your Lordships judgment.

P. Yorke

D. Wearg

20<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1720.



Queries humbly offered to the Rt Honble <sup>[page]</sup>  
the Lords Comrs for Trade and Planta-  
tions, for the better explaining the Order  
of the Lords Justices, of the 6<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>r</sup> 1723,  
concerning the Lands in the new Erected  
Counties of Brunswick and Spotsylvania,  
in Virginia.

[The same queries as given  
in the foregoing report but  
without the answers. It  
is also a duplicate of p. 371.]

Endorsed Queries offered by Major Drysdale, for the <sup>[page]</sup>  
better explaining the Order of the Lords Justices, dated the  
6<sup>th</sup> of August 1723, concerning the Lands in the New Erected  
Counties of Brunswick and Spotsylvania, in Vir-  
ginia.



[p. 52.]

## The Case

Of Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood, late Lt. Governor of Virginia,  
 & of other Adventurers in Lands within the two  
 new Counties of Brunswick & Spotsylvania

## Truly Stated

In answer to a fallacious Representation  
 made by Major Drysdale, y<sup>e</sup> present Lt. Governor.

From y<sup>e</sup> first establishing a Government in Vir-  
 ginia, it has been y<sup>e</sup> Practice throughout that Colony,  
 for any Inhabitant to Enter for & take up as much of  
 y<sup>e</sup> Crown's Unpatented Lands, as He, or She, could pro-  
 duce Rights for; & by reason y<sup>e</sup> y<sup>e</sup> British Provinces on  
 y<sup>e</sup> Continent of North America want People to Seat y<sup>e</sup>  
 vast Deserts on their Frontiers, & to strengthen them against  
 Indian Incursions, every Government there have hitherto  
 found themselves under a necessity of making y<sup>e</sup> Terms,  
 for taking up Lands, easie to y<sup>e</sup> Adventurers; & accord-  
 ingly several Laws & Regulations have from time to time  
 been made in Virginia in favour of the Planters.

And where her late Majesty, by certain Instruc-  
 tions to Governor Hunter, thought fitting to direct a new  
 method in y<sup>e</sup> Granting of Lands, y<sup>e</sup> President & Council  
 of y<sup>e</sup> said Colony represented it as not agreeable to the  
 Laws, Constitution & Practice of y<sup>e</sup> Colony: And there-  
 upon both Her late, & His present Majesty, by y<sup>e</sup> 52 Article  
 of Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood's Instructions, Will & Command that



for y<sup>e</sup> future Lands should be Granted as y<sup>e</sup> Charter  
& Laws of that Colony allow & direct, & as y<sup>e</sup> Practice  
had been before the Instructions to Gov<sup>r</sup> Hunter: With  
only this Restriction, that a Cultivation & Improvement  
should be made in proportion to y<sup>e</sup> number of Acres  
taken up.

Thus W<sup>th</sup> Spotswood, during his administration, looked upon himself to be Authorized & directed to Grant Patents for any Tracts of Land, which y<sup>e</sup> People would take up upon y<sup>e</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> Conditions: But as those Conditions, w<sup>ch</sup> he had got established by Law, together with some other Injunctions for y<sup>e</sup> benefit of y<sup>e</sup> Crown, were found to discourage Adventurers from taking up y<sup>e</sup> King's Land in any quantities, & that multitudes of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants were drawn away into y<sup>e</sup> neighbouring Proprietary Governments, for y<sup>e</sup> sake of having Lands there on much easier Terms, He thought it for His Majesty's Interest to Encourage the People, by his own Example, to take up the Virginia Lands; & accordingly in Person he undertook several fatiguing & expensive Expeditions into y<sup>e</sup> wild Woods, to make discoveries of Land, & entered into joint Partnership with four or five different Companies, for y<sup>e</sup> taking up Land, & importing People to Cultivate & save it.

[p. 112]

And in y<sup>e</sup> year 1714 He with some other Gentlemen, whom he called his Germanna Company, were at



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of Charge of importing upwards of 40 Germans, & ventured to settle them so far beyond y<sup>e</sup> then inhabited part of y<sup>e</sup> Colony, y<sup>e</sup> they had a Road of 25 Miles long to make for a Communication to them; & y<sup>e</sup> Settlement being much exposed to Indians, who at that time greatly infested y<sup>e</sup> Frontiers, there was likewise a necessity of Fortifying it: Which undertaking y<sup>e</sup> Assembly of Virginia regarding as a Publick benefit, they in their next Session passed a Law to erect the Settlement, & 5 miles round it, into a distinct Parish, & to exempt y<sup>e</sup> Dwellers therein from all Tithes, or Taxes, for seven Years.

Upon this many People moved out, & seated Land under y<sup>e</sup> protection of y<sup>e</sup> said Settlement; & Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood finding his Undertaking to have such success, & y<sup>e</sup> it proved agreeable to y<sup>e</sup> Country in general, he proceeded afterwards to form & enter into two more considerable Partnerships for taking up Land; & y<sup>e</sup> One, which was named y<sup>e</sup> Spotsylvania Company, joined in y<sup>e</sup> Expence of bringing in about fourscore persons from Germany; & y<sup>e</sup> Other, called y<sup>e</sup> Iron mine Company, were at y<sup>e</sup> Charge of importing about y<sup>e</sup> same number from Ireland & other parts; besides y<sup>e</sup> like complement of Servants & Slaves, w<sup>ch</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood provided upon his own account, for a separate Concern: And with these People Plantations were seated, not only to secure y<sup>e</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> Communication



up to the Germanna Settlement, but also to advance  
12 miles beyond it, with a chain of Plantations ready  
to succour one another upon all Alarms of Indians.

In y<sup>e</sup> Year 1720 y<sup>e</sup> Assembly of Virginia re-  
flecting on y<sup>e</sup> extraordinary progress that had been  
made in y<sup>e</sup> settling of Lands upon y<sup>e</sup> Germanna  
Frontier, where y<sup>e</sup> Adventurers had had some in-  
couragement from the Publick, and deliberating on  
y<sup>e</sup> importance of pushing on those Settlements about  
40 miles further to secure a Pass, w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Governor had  
discovered in the high Mountains, did judge it ex-  
pedient, in imitation of what had been done six  
years before, to erect into a distinct County & Parish  
a certain described Tract of Land w<sup>ch</sup> extended to y<sup>e</sup>  
said Pass, & to grant all y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants thereof, without  
distinction, an Exemption from Publick Taxes for Ten  
[in a different hand] 2. y<sup>e</sup> last year  
passed by his  
Majesty years, together with divers other Benefits set forth in y<sup>e</sup>  
Law, w<sup>ch</sup> passed upon that occasion: And because it  
was alledged y<sup>e</sup> there was such another Pass through  
y<sup>e</sup> Mountains, towards y<sup>e</sup> South Boundary of y<sup>e</sup> Province,  
another County was there erected w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> same Priviledges.  
And moreover to make y<sup>e</sup> Rewards & encouragements to y<sup>e</sup>  
Adventurers still greater, both Houses of Assembly joynt  
in an humble Address to His M<sup>ty</sup> to remit y<sup>e</sup> Rights  
& Quitrents of his Lands within those two new Coun-  
ties for the same term of Years.



This Address carrying y<sup>e</sup> face of much Bene-  
fit to y<sup>e</sup> Crown & Safety to y<sup>e</sup> Colony (as appears by  
y<sup>e</sup> Reports of 3 Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Boards, & by y<sup>e</sup> Determina-  
tion of their ~~Wise~~ the Lords Justices thereupon) the  
Government of Virginia had good grounds to expect  
the said Remission would be granted; & therefore <sup>[p. 222]</sup>  
y<sup>e</sup> Surveyors were ordered to Survey Lands in those  
two Counties without obliging y<sup>e</sup> Adventurers to deposit  
Rights as is customary throughout y<sup>e</sup> rest of the Colo-  
ny. Besides it was considered y<sup>e</sup> in case His Majesty  
would not remit the Rights, yet they could stil be  
secured before the passing y<sup>e</sup> Patents; & y<sup>e</sup> Patents for  
Lands in those two Counties were thought proper to be  
delay'd, because if y<sup>e</sup> Remission was granted, it  
would occasion a necessary variation from y<sup>e</sup> Common  
forms of all other Patents in y<sup>e</sup> Colony.

Thus many People were induced to remove out &  
seat Lands in those remote Counties, nothing doubting  
of their obtaining in due time Patents for the same, since  
it never had been y<sup>e</sup> practice of y<sup>e</sup> Government to refuse  
any person a Grant (where the Entry was not contro-  
verted) for whatever Tract He, or She would please to  
take up on the Crown's Terms.

But at length divers Persons, who wanted to con-  
vey their Lands, either by Deed or Will, growing un-  
easie at their not being able so to do, while they



held them by no better Tenure than that of an Entry  
to Survey, Applied to y<sup>e</sup> Governor for Patents, & on y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup>  
April 1732 in a very full Council, after a serious Delibera-  
tion, this was y<sup>e</sup> Opinion of the whole Board; Viz<sup>t</sup>. That  
Patents be granted to such as desire y<sup>e</sup> same, upon their  
giving Security to pay for y<sup>e</sup> Rights, in case His Majesty  
shall not think fit to Remit y<sup>e</sup> same, according to the  
Address of the Assembly.

Hereupon y<sup>e</sup> Govern<sup>r</sup> began to sign Patents for  
Land in y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> two new Counties, as y<sup>e</sup> Clerk of y<sup>e</sup> Secre-  
tarys Office brought them to him; but ere he had signed  
many, he examined into y<sup>e</sup> security w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> said Clerk  
had taken, & finding y<sup>e</sup> it was no more than y<sup>e</sup> Pa-  
tentees own personal Bond, he judged that would not  
be sufficient with respect to several Land-Holders, who  
are necessitous Woods-Men, that make it their Business to  
take up Lands, & then for a moderate Consideration convey  
y<sup>e</sup> same over to such as are of ability to Seat & Cultivate  
them: Wherefore consulting w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Attorney General, he  
ordered one Instrument to be drawn up for every  
Patentee to Sign at y<sup>e</sup> receiving his Patent, whereby y<sup>e</sup>  
Rights remained, in y<sup>e</sup> same manner as y<sup>e</sup> Quit Rents,  
chargeable upon y<sup>e</sup> Land whoever became Possessor  
thereof, & so y<sup>e</sup> Drawn could not possibly happen to  
suffer by any Insolvency. Besides as it was well un-  
derstood that most People took up more Land than



they would meddle with, if they were to purchase the same with Rights, it was thought most just if they should pay for no more than they were content to hold after they knew y<sup>e</sup> King's Terms.

Afterwards when it was rumoured y<sup>e</sup> a new Go-  
vernor was coming over, some Persons apprehending y<sup>e</sup> Difficulties might arise from a Gentleman who was entirely a stranger to y<sup>e</sup> Constitution & Practice of y<sup>e</sup> Colony, pressed to have their Patents signed: But more especially when it was understood y<sup>e</sup> Parson Blair was likely to act as Prime Minister, those who dreaded y<sup>e</sup> exercise of any Power lodged in him, & were sensible y<sup>e</sup> he could less injure them by his open Vote in y<sup>e</sup> General Court, than by his secret Advice to y<sup>e</sup> Governor, chose to secure in time their Lands by a Title, w<sup>th</sup> nothing but y<sup>e</sup> Law could set aside, & where they had a dernier Resort to his Ma<sup>ty</sup> <sup>[pass]</sup> Majesty's Justice; rather than venture to let them lie any longer unpatented, & consequently depend upon his Courtesy for a Grant of them.

Thus some persons having been forced to take out their Patents in such Form, as y<sup>e</sup> Governor had then Power to pass them, their Grants may possibly be now found to want some Formality: But seeing it has been y<sup>e</sup> Practice, of y<sup>e</sup> Government in Virginia, ever to indulge a Patentee, who discovered any Defect in



his Grant from y<sup>e</sup> Crown, with y<sup>e</sup> liberty of taking  
out a new Patent, when it injured no other Subject;  
it is humbly presumed that y<sup>e</sup> Equity of these Pa-  
tentees Cases being considered, they may upon a sur-  
render of their present Grants, have their Possessions  
confirmed to them by new Patents in due Form.

For these Patentees adventured upon those remote  
& exposed Lands, at the instigation of the Government  
& General Assembly of Virginia: They have built Houses,  
cleared Grounds, fenced Fields, made Roads & Bridges,  
drove out Stocks of Cattle, transported Household Goods,  
removed Families of Women & Children w<sup>th</sup> all y<sup>e</sup> neces-  
saries of Life to support them in y<sup>e</sup> wild Woods, &  
in short have passed through the immense Troubles,  
Fatigues, Dangers, & Expences, which are inseparable from  
new Settlements in America, whenever they are made  
at any distance from y<sup>e</sup> seated part of y<sup>e</sup> Country; &  
after they have maintained & guarded y<sup>e</sup> Frontier until  
y<sup>e</sup> Terror of y<sup>e</sup> Indians is over, it would be severe just-  
ice, for any informality of Words, to expound them out  
of their Possessions, & to transfer them to others, who have  
no other Merit or Pretension, than that they are more  
in favour w<sup>th</sup> Governor Drysdale.

Some led by a Publick Spirit have parted with  
their old Patrimories & Possessions in y<sup>e</sup> lower parts of  
y<sup>e</sup> Colony, & removed with their Families and Substance



into those upper Counties, to try to raise Naval Stores upon those new Lands, in conformity to His Majesty's Speech, upon that head, to the Parliament: And such an extraordinary Progress has Col<sup>o</sup>/Spotswood already made in this kind of undertaking, that it would be obstructing a Publick Good to divest him of his Lands; besides y<sup>e</sup> unprecedented Hardships of the Crown's disposing of a Man's Possessions after he has expended vast Sums, & run through an excessive deal of Trouble & Danger to make Improvements thereon.

After this Historical Account of the Occasion & Manner of Granting Lands in the two new Counties, which has now been offered with some Remarks on y<sup>e</sup> Merits of y<sup>e</sup> Adventurers; 'tis fit next to examine y<sup>e</sup> Reasonableness & Justice of Major Drysdale's Representation against them, as contained in his Letter & Queries to y<sup>e</sup> Lords Comiss<sup>rs</sup> for Trade & Plantations, bearing date y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> of June 1724.



Some of Major Drysdale's Queries

[p. 114.]

Set in another Light

By Col. Spotswood

After Lands had been Granted to the Subject in Virginia in such Quantities as had been conformable to an universal Practice, which the King, & his Royal Predecessors, had for an hundred years past allowed throughout the British Dominions in North America;

1 Query.

Whether the Patents granted for above 1000 Acres of Land in y<sup>e</sup> said new Counties, without any direction from his Majesty, & against his new declared Intention be not for that Cause void?

Query Whether a posterior Instruction from the Crown, restraining y<sup>e</sup> quantity of Land to be granted to each Person, can make void any Patents that had been bona fide passed before y<sup>e</sup> Date of y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> Instruction, altho some of them might contain more Land than such new Instruction admits of?

When the Assembly of Virginia petitioned His Majesty to Remit the Quit Rents & Rights of the two new Counties



for a term of Years, they very well knew that there were many tracts of Land already taken up, as well as some hundreds of Inhabitants then resident within the said Counties; And as they, by their Law, granted their Exemptions without distinction, & equally for y<sup>e</sup> Case of all (as well of those already settled there, as of such as should thereafter come to dwell therein) so they applied for the Kings Bounty to be given in the same manner, without any Exception: And seeing the Lords Justices, in their Order for Granting y<sup>e</sup> Remission, first take notice y<sup>e</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Assembly prayed His Majesty to Remit All Quitrents of the said two Counties, & then after declaring their Approbation of y<sup>e</sup> Assembly's Reasons for inducing His Majesty to Grant that Favour, Their Excellencies say, they are therefore pleased (pursuant to what is thereby Proposed) to Grant a Remission of the Quitrents & Purchase of Rights, for y<sup>e</sup> term of seven years, to be reckoned from y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1731.

2. 2<sup>u</sup>.

Whether the Patentes are to hold y<sup>e</sup> Lands now claimed therein, or only 1000

2<sup>u</sup>. Whether y<sup>e</sup> Governor might not fairly understand that their Excellencies had Granted y<sup>e</sup> Remission of Quit



Acres thereof, exempted  
from y<sup>e</sup> purchase of  
Rights & payment  
of Quitrents, for the  
Seven years mention-  
ed in the Lords Jus-  
tices Order?

rents & Rights in y<sup>e</sup> same  
sense & Latitude that it  
was Petitioned for, so far  
forth as is not in their Or-  
der plainly expressed to the  
contrary?

And whether after such a  
Grant y<sup>e</sup> Officers of the Reve-  
nue in Virginia can just-  
ly demand Payment of Quit-  
rents & Rights for any Lands  
within the two s<sup>d</sup> Counties,  
from May 1721, to May 1723.

/ The Governor & Council of Vir:<sup>(possib.)</sup>  
ginia have full Power & Authority  
from y<sup>e</sup> King, under the Great Seal,  
to settle & agree with y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants  
there for any of y<sup>e</sup> Crown Lands with-  
in that Dominion, & to pass Grants  
thereof upon such Terms as they  
shall think fit: And y<sup>e</sup> said Go-  
vernor & Council having, upon some  
just & particular Considerations, judged  
it expedient to suspend till his M<sup>ty</sup>s  
Pleasure was known, the usual De-  
mand of Rights from y<sup>e</sup> Adventurers



11. Qu.

Whether such Patents Granted, & no consideration of Rights paid or produced be not Void ab initio, for default of that consideration, which by the Constitution of y<sup>e</sup> Government, ought to have preceded the signing of the Grant?

upon some certain remote Lands, & in y<sup>e</sup> interim to admit of Security given by the Patentees for the Payment thereof,

Qu. Whether Patents passed upon such Security given, can be deemed Void, merely because it had been customary in other ordinary Cases to pay down y<sup>e</sup> Consideration at Entering with y<sup>e</sup> Surveyor for the Land?

Importation-Rights in Virginia have been established by the King's Charter, & therein declared to have been used & allowed from the first Seating of that Colony: Money-Rights were created about y<sup>e</sup> year 1702, by y<sup>e</sup> Authority of the Governor & Council, in order to supply the Deficiencies of their Salaries, & to accomodate such Adventurers as might want more Land than they could prove persons imported. And ever since the creating of these, both sorts have indifferently been accepted, as y<sup>e</sup> Patentees would choose to produce them, to answer the Quantity of Land contained in their Patents: Nor can there be one single instance given (before



the present difficulty which Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale starts) of any scruple made in the Office, about the consideration of one sort of Right preferably to the other, provided they were both true ones.

Q<sup>u</sup> Whether such Persons can be allowed now to discharge their Bonds by producing Importation Rights?

And if they may, whether such Rights can make valid a Patent granted upon the express consideration of Money paid?

Ans. Whether y<sup>e</sup> Patentee, who by permission of Government had given security for paying y<sup>e</sup> Rights, which should thereafter appear due for y<sup>e</sup> Land they should hold, can be denied y<sup>e</sup> liberty to discharge their Bonds by Importation-Rights, after y<sup>e</sup> Royal Charter had plainly declared y<sup>e</sup> Subject should be allowed to take up Land with such Rights; & even when y<sup>e</sup> express condition of their Bonds is to pay with either sort of Rights? And whether their Patents cannot be valid without paying Money Rights, only because y<sup>e</sup> consideration mentioned in the



[p. 107]

forms of such Patents is for  
Money paid to the King's use?

/ Col<sup>o</sup>. Spotswood, prompted by what  
is already set forth in his Case, did  
take up some considerable tracts of Land,  
within the County of Spotsylvania, in  
partnership with divers other persons; &  
the reason of his Name not being insert-  
ed in the Patents, was because he could  
not be both the Grantor & Grantee; & to  
avoid all suspicion of his intending any  
Fraud by such Omission, he communicated  
the same to the Council, while the Auditor  
of the King's Revenues was present (as y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>  
Auditor has Certified under his hand)  
And so soon as Col<sup>o</sup> Spotswood understood  
that y<sup>e</sup> Clerk of y<sup>e</sup> Patent-Office had omit-  
ted taking y<sup>e</sup> usual Bonds of the Patentees  
for y<sup>e</sup> Rights of the Land, which he was  
concerned in, he offered immediately to  
execute himself Bonds for that purpose,  
& soon after wrote to y<sup>e</sup> Auditor, telling  
him that he was ready to pay whatever  
were the Demands of the Government upon  
him for his Lands.

10. 2u.

Whether those Patents

2u. Whether the King can be said



be not void, since  
if King is entirely  
deceived in the Con-  
sideration?

"Re.

Whether Col<sup>o</sup>  
Spotswood can by any  
posterior Payment, or  
Tender of y<sup>e</sup> Considera-  
tion Money, make valid  
y<sup>e</sup> said Patents, at y<sup>e</sup>  
granting whereof the  
King was thus deceived?

to be deceived in such  
Grants, when no Circumstance  
has been concealed from his  
Council, nor any Payment,  
demandable upon those Grants,  
ever been refused to the Of-  
ficers of his Revenue?



[p. 229]

Major Drysdale's Letter wrote to the Lords Commissioners  
for Trade & Plantations bearing date 4<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> June 1720.

Letter

Examined

Answer

1) After acquainting their Lordships with his having had a Council on the Subject of the Lords Justices Order concerning the two new erected Counties He says Through my predecessor's Management (who made hast to be beforehand with any Instructions that should come in hither of that Nature) of Lands in those Counties especially Spotsylvania are parcelled out and patented in a manner so inconsistent & directly opposite to their Excellencies Commands that I am at a loss to reconcile them to the purport & design of their Intentions whereby I am put under a necessity of delaying the Execution of their Orders. And

1) Major Drysdale heedlessly begins with throwing a Stone at his Predecessor, which falls upon himself; for there will be found full as many patents for Land in the County of Brunswick, & near as many in that of Spotsylvania, signed by himself before the receipt of the Lords Justices Order, as have been signed by his predecessor; so that whatever Loss he finds himself at in the discharge of his Office, he should, for his own sake, have spared assigning such a Cause. And even that Charge against his predecessor (of making hast to be beforehand with any Instructions that should come) will light more heavily upon himself, when it shall appear that the Application from the Assembly to his Majesty, for a Remission of the Rights & Quit rents, passed both Houses in the Year 1720, & that thereafter both Spotswood never signed a patent for Land in the 2 Counties, until after the deliberate Advice given to that purpose by a full Council held the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1722: <sup>W</sup> Major Drysdale came from Eng<sup>l</sup> land in the September following, notwithstanding



Letter

addressing my self to Your Lordships for the favour of your Advice & Directions in this intricate Affair; which that I may possess in the fullest manner I beg permission to lay before Your Lordships the true State of the whole matter.

2) The Lords Justices in issuing their Restrictions & Limitations seem to believe that all the Lands in the two New Counties were shut up from all persons possession, until such time as his Majesty's pleasure was known upon what Terms he should think fit to Grant the Exemptions petitioned for by the Assembly.

Answer

he pretended to have learnt the Sense of the Ministry on that Affair, yet he continued from his Arrival until the Year 1724. to sign patents for Land in those 2 Counties & to allow the Surveyors there to lay off, without any Rights deposited, as large parcels as the people would take up.

2 If Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale will understand that their Excellencies intended all the Lands in the 2 Counties should have been shut up from all persons possession, from the time of the Assembly's Application, to the Signification of his Majesty's Pleasure thereupon; let him Answer for his Transgression in that point. But for Rob<sup>t</sup> Spotswood's part, he pleads, That from the very Words of their Excellencies Grant they could mean no such prohibition; for tho' their Order bears date 4<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>r</sup> 1725, yet they expressly "Grant a Remission of the Quit rents & Rights for the Term of 7 Years, to be reckoned from y<sup>e</sup> first day of May 1721, y<sup>e</sup> time the said two Counties were first laid out. Now if no Lands ought to have been possessed in those Counties before the Grant's pleasure was known in Virginia (which was not till the Year



Letter

Answer

3) But I am to observe to Your Lordships that a very gr<sup>t</sup> quantity of the most valuable Lands in Spotsylvania was entered for with the Surveyors even before the Act of Assembly erected it into a County: & the very night that Act passed petitions were delivered to the Governor in Council, praying leave to take up large tracts of Land in that County; which was readily agreed to as will appear from an Extract of that Council's Journals hereunto annexed

4 The next Subsequent Step to this was the Governor, much about the

1724) then no person could reap the benefit of more than 4 Years Remission which is a plain contradiction to what their Excellencies have been pleased to declare.

5 Whatever Lands had been entered for within the 2 New Counties, could be no secret to that House of Burgesses who framed the Act, & Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's Observation is an Argument that the Assembly was convinced that even those who had secured the best Lands needed Encouragement to go on & Seat them. And as to his other Observation and Extract, he might have spared their Lordships the trouble thereof after his predecessor had transmitted the same home long before, as well as a farther Account of a great many more petitions of the like sort, with which the Council Journals were continually filled & were as readily agreed to.

6 It has already been set forth upon what Inducement, and at what time Col Spotwood began to sign patents for Lands in the two New



Letter

time he was super-  
seded, proceed to give  
& sign patents to such  
patentees for these large  
tracts of Land they had  
entered for, but neglect-  
ed calling upon those  
patentees to produce  
Rights for the Importa-  
tion of persons into  
the Colony, or to show  
Certificates from the  
Officers of his Majes-  
ties Revenue of such  
patentees having paid  
into their hands for  
his Majesty's Use five  
shillings Sterb for  
every 50 Acres: One of  
which all persons are  
obliged by Law to  
perform before they  
enter any Land in

Answer

Counties; & as Major Drysdale's superseding  
him was kept a Secret in London until the  
6<sup>th</sup> of April 1722 (the Day he kissed the Kings  
hand for the Govern<sup>mt</sup>.) it cannot sure be im-  
agined that any knowledge thereof in Virginia  
could move the Council there, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the  
same Month, to come to the Resolution they did  
in signing patents. But Mr Spotswood owns,  
that after he understood he was to be super-  
seded, he did continue to sign patents, & even  
some wherein he himself was interested; &  
since he has experienced the inveterate Opposition  
that Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale [intended] to make to all  
that can be thought the Interest, or reputed  
the f<sup>ul</sup> [born away] predecessor; how he will strain  
his Representations to the prejudice [born away]  
/ & break through all the forms of Justice to overcome  
him; Mr Spotswood cannot but think it a lucky  
precaution to have secured his Lands from the abso-  
lute Dependence on so unkind a Successor, & pitie-  
those who must submit to loose their possessions, not  
ly because they are not considerable enough to claim  
a benefit of having their Cause heard before  
his Majesty in Council. And as to the not call-  
ing upon the patentees to produce Rights, the  
Rights are already given for Mr Spotswood



Letter

Answer

5) This Defect was supplied by obliging the patentees to give Bonds, of which there are two sorts, the first binds down the patentee to pay when demanded 5. Shill. Sterl for every 50 Acres to his Majesty, which is much the same with a prompt payment, these Bonds were directed in Council, & there arises only 2. of this kind. The second sort the Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup>. drew by Mr Spotswood's single Authority, which are indeed next to no Bonds at all, for the patentee is indulged with a Liberty of either holding or resigning his patent according to his pleasure, & the Consideration in these

but why say? Drysdale, who faults the Omission, should neglect the same for all the patents he signed, is not herein pretended to be answered for -  
5) Mr Spotswood is ready to give the most positive Testimony, which may be required, that no particular Bonds for securing the Rights had been directed in Council, & hopes he may be allowed to know yet certainly thereof better than those who were a Thousand Leagues off. However had he discovered any insufficiency in a Bond directed in Council, he should have thought it very properly incumbent on him to alter it, for the more effectually securing his Majesty's Interest; And no man he should judge more proper to advise with in such a Case, than the King's Attorney General. Neither may it appear an unreasonable Indulgence, if, while the Subject is under an uncertainty of the Terms upon which the King will grant his Land, the Governor should, for the Encouragement of Adventurers in those two remote and inconvenient Counties, allow them in the interim to take up such parcels as are customary throughout the rest of the Colony, upon



## Letter

patents as in all others expressly mention for 6. Shillings Sterk for every 60. Acres paid to his Majesty's Use, yet these patents refuse to pay the King's Rights or to hold the Lands but offer a Surrender, A Copy of these two Sort of [Patents] & of a patent is herewith sent.

6) Hence it is that the Kings Lands are occupied for some years past & no Rights or Quit rents paid or can be demanded

7) Hence it is that these Lands which by the Lords Justices Comands are limited to be Granted in no greater Quantities than One thousand Acres to any One person are parcelled and patented out

## Answer

the Conditions of paying the Crown's price, so soon as it is known, or otherwise of surrendering their Land, to be disposed of to others who will be disposed of to others who will pay the price.

6) If every Acre of Land within the two new Counties were occupied, without the payment of One Shilling for Rights or Quit Rents from May 1721. to 1728. it is not more than the Assembly of Virginia plainly petitioned for; & what may fairly be understood to be Granted by the Lords Justices Order in Council of the 6<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> 1723.

7) If the King should hereafter think fit to extend the same Limitation of 1000. Acres throughout the rest of the Counties in Virginia would say: Drysdale judge his present Grants, for larger Tracts of Land, to be the less Valid by such posterior Order, or that he himself deserved to be censured for not conforming to an Instruction before



Letter

in Decr of 10, 20<sup>th</sup>

40,000 Acres a piece

to argue & little left to

dispose of beside the

most remote barren

& unprofitable.

8) Hence it is that

the Intentions of

the Crown to make

that of Spotsylvania

a well inhabited

Frontier is frustrated.

9) And from hence

it is that the Govern

ment here is perplexed

how to construe or

to comply with the

Lords Justices Comands

10) That your Ldps

Answer

Master had thought fit to enjoy an  
Observance of it.

8) It was undoubtedly as much the Intention  
of the Crown to make the County of Brunswick a  
well inhabited Frontier as to make that of Spots-  
sylvania, & seeing that County where no large  
Grants have yet passed, has at this day scarce  
any Inhabitants, while the other is found to  
have above 800. Liable persons in it, Major  
Drysdale unluckily points out a Consequence which  
weakens his own Complaint against those large  
Grants.

9) If we will strain Orders beyond their plain  
& natural import, 'tis not strange that we meet with  
perplexity in the Execution of them, by having a  
multitude of Inconsistencies to struggle with; & when a  
Governor will attack people's properties by the most  
cruel Constructions & partial Representations he  
must not wonder if all his Council do not  
concur with him or that he is opposed by  
those persons whom he is going to ruin.

10) had Maj. Drysdale added another <sup>[p. 64.]</sup>



Letter

may be apprized what Quantities of Land were patented before their Excellencies the<sup>ts</sup> Justices Order came to my hands I send a list of the several dates of the patents, the number of Acres contained in each Grant, & the Names of those persons to whom Granted in a paper N<sup>o</sup> 3.

11) Among these Dis: tributions W<sup>m</sup> Spotswood had a great regard to his private Interest, for I find 2. tracts of Land One of 20. another of 40,000 Acres entered for patent. ed under borrowed Names for his Use, & since Con: veyed to him for which he had neither paid Rights nor given either sort of Bond to pay if demanded or to surrender. That your Lordships may be likewise

Answer

Column to this List, for the Names of the Governors Granting the patents, his Name would appear therein almost as often as his Predecessors; but it was not his business to discover so much to their Lordships; the part he had to play was to set W<sup>m</sup> Spotswood out in such a light as if it was he alone that had done every thing amiss.

11) For Major Drysdale to accuse W<sup>m</sup> Spotswood with having great regard to his private Interest, would appear a strange Charge to all in America, who have had Occasion to observe how the One & the other have supported the Dignity of his Majesties Government there: And whoever here at home shall take the trouble to read W<sup>m</sup> Spots: woods Case relating to his Lands in Virginia (wherein is particularly set forth the distinct Tracts, & the several times when he became possessed thereof together with the means he had used, the Views that had prompted him & y<sup>e</sup> Occasions that had urged him to take them up) such Reader will surely ac: quit him of doing ought clandestinely with



Letter

apprized of the Quantity of Land he possessed in Spotsylvania County, I add it to gether in a paper N<sup>o</sup> 4.

12) I am further to inform Your Exps that when the Line was run to make Spotsylvania a County, some Owners of Land in the contiguous Counties artfully contrived to get their Estates<sup>d</sup> consisted of about 125000 Acres of Land to be included within the Bounds of this New erected County that they might be exempted from paying Quit rents, tho such Land had been regularly taxed from the first Entry whereby his Majesty suffered considerably in his Annual Revenue; But my Instructions

Answer

any sinister Self View, especially when it is observed that the Auditor of the King's Revenues in Virginia confesses to be matter of fact what is set forth in the said base.

12) here Major Drysdale will have another random fling at his predecessor without being very scrupulous as to the truth of his Informations; for some people could have informed him that, so far from any artful Contrivance being needed to bring down the Dividing Line of Spotsylvania County, such was the Sense of the Assembly upon the excessive Lengths of the then frontier Counties between Rappahannock & Mattaponi Rivers (where divers Inhabitants were 90 miles distant from their respective Courthouses) that some Members could hardly be prevailed on to agree to the fixing the said Line so high up, as it was directed by the Act. And if Maj<sup>r</sup> Drysdale's Account of 125000 Acres be not Erroneous, he discovers a very singular prejudice to Col<sup>l</sup> Spotwood, seeing the Sum, which he has obliged the Col<sup>l</sup> to pay every Year for the Quit rent of his 26000 Acres, makes half the Amount of what



Letter

are most clear as to that point, & I have made a Demand for all such Arrears as will oblige the proprietors of those Lands to Account for 'em: Bob Spotswood possessed 20000 Acres in One or other of those Counties which are now all flung into Spotsylvania.

15) Such being the Circumstances of them two New erected Counties Especially of Spotsylvania (Brunswick is so remote from any Navigable River, that few or none have settled yet there) I humbly presume your Ships will be induced to believe there are many Cases my present Instructions cannot reach which puts me under a Necessity (that

Answer

the Officers of the Revenue now account to the Crown for all the Quit rents of both Brunswick & Spotsylvania Counties.

15) Major Drysdale has so little stirred abroad to learn the Situation of his province, that he may be pardoned an Error in Geography, when he sets forth the Lands of Brunswick to be remote from a Navigable River than those of Spotsylvania; But it is not so excusable in him to represent to their Lordships a different Cause from what is confessed by the whole Country, for the seating One County before the other; which most apparently was the Comfort & protection that the Adventurers received from Bob Spotswood's strong & formidable Settlements which kept the Indians in awe, serving like a Convoy in the Woods at the head of the lesser Settlements, & advancing



Letter

I may be the better  
enabled to act with  
justice to the King  
& Subject) of tender-  
ing a few Queries  
to Your Lordships  
consideration & pray-  
ing Your Lordships  
Resolves thereupon.

Answer

gradually as the other Adventurers  
could keep pace

Endorsed Ed: Spotswood's Answer. / Recd Jan: 11, <sup>[1725]</sup>  
1725.

[apparently as wrapper for the set of papers pp. 179-201]  
Also Endorsed Virginia / SV Attorney & SV Solr.  
Genl / Report upon Sv't Queries / sent from Maj: Dwyer.  
John Punt / Govt of Virginia, in relation / to some  
extravagant Grants / of Land there. / Recd Jan: 29<sup>th</sup> } 1725/6 /  
Recd Feby 2<sup>nd</sup> }  
2: 93.